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Kent on Sunday

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Thousands inspired to take up sport as Olympics effect begins

By Marijke Cox
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THE Olympics looks set to inspire the next generation of athletes as the county sees a staggering rise in the number of people taking up sport.

In the 12-month run-up to the Games, around 50,000 more people in Kent have taken up a physical activity, with this number expected to soar in the coming weeks and months.

And Kent County Council's sport website has seen visitor numbers rocket as those inspired by our Olympic heroes find out how and where to get active.

Head of KCC's culture and sport group Chris Hespe, who has been instrumental in the county's involvement in the Games, said the uptake in sport was just one part of the Olympic legacy.

"It's not just about people getting to the very top level, what we really want in this county is people just to take part – I want to see everyone set their own gold challenge," he said.

"We've seen 50,000 more people participate in sport and physical activity over the past year; that's people going from doing nothing to something.

"I think this is an amazing feat."

Mr Hespe said the county provides a range of sporting services to support people from the top to the lower levels.

"We have a structure in place – we help with coaches, securing sponsorship, we've been enhancing facilities, giving smaller grants to clubs, running activity programmes, we have the Kent School Games – which sprinter Adam Gemili competed in – and we support our athletes.

"In Beijing we had four Olympians from Kent and this year we have 12. While we can't take credit for the hard

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GOLDEN GIRL: Ashford's Lisa Dobriskey says Kent sports facilities are first class

LONDON 2012

Dancer wins Games role

A THEATRE director from Kent will be taking part in tonight's Olympic Games closing ceremony – and he says it will be spectacular. Max Reynolds will be one of the dancers performing when Eurythmics star Annie Lennox sings in the event that will celebrate the best of British music. **PAGE 3**

CAMPAIGN

Airport funds plan attacked

AIRPORT bosses have condemned funding plans for Lord Foster's hub airport vision. In comments which can only help to damage proposals for an airport in the Thames Estuary, owners of British Airways and Heathrow criticised the funding plan for the architect's Isle of Grain proposal. **PAGE 5**

SPORT

1,000 hockey stars in town

CANTERBURY is getting ready to stage a 'mini hockey Olympics' with the arrival of the Masters World Cup on Tuesday. The Polo Farm facility will host 10 days of hockey action with nearly 1,000 players representing nations including New Zealand, Australia, and South Africa. **PAGE 63**



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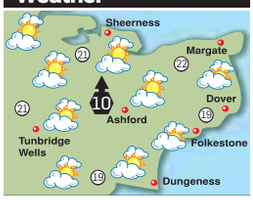
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Weather



TODAY: A fine start. Showers possible. Light southerly winds. Max temp 19-22C (66-72F). **TONIGHT:** Largely dry. Mist patches. Min temp 12-15C (54-59F).

TODAY'S HIGH TIDE (Metres)

Dover	07.36	5.1	20.09	5.2
Margate	08.08	3.8	20.42	3.8
St Mary's	00.40	4.1	13.29	4.2

WEEK AHEAD

Monday	Max 21C	Min 13C
Tuesday	Max 23C	Min 15C
Wednesday	Max 22C	Min 13C
Thursday	Max 22C	Min 14C
Friday	Max 22C	Min 14C
Saturday	Max 21C	Min 15C

Information supplied by MeteoGroup

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BUSINESS

'Queen of Clean' lends support to pioneering eco product as inventor plans further expansion

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THE creator of a Sheppey-made product which is flying off the shelves has spoken of his hopes of generating more jobs on the island.

Rob Knight, 33, from Penenden Heath, Maidstone, is the brains behind Ecoegg, an eco-friendly alternative to washing detergent.

The product, which is being championed by How Clean Is Your House star Kim Woodburn, was dreamt up by 'ecowarrior' Mr Knight and his business partner Dawn White, 34, in Kent.

He said: "It was two things that made us think of the idea. I was babysitting my sister's children and her washing machine was on all day. I thought it must be costing her a fortune.

"Also, Dawn has sensitive skin and we tried almost every detergent out there without success."

Ecoegg, which was launched in 2010, is a plastic oval filled with two different types of pellets and washes clothes when put in the drum of the machine.

It lasts up to 720 washes and the pellets are chemical free and so the product has been given the seal of approval by Allergy UK and National Eczema Society.

After selling a massive 100,000 of the eggs, mostly via shopping channel QVC, Mr Knight has managed to secure a deal with home store Lakeland to stock the product on its shelves. He is also in talks with one of the big four supermarkets.

Mr Knight said: "I am really excited to be able to go into the stores and see the products."

The company headquarters are in West Malling and Ecoegg manufacturing work recently moved from China to Queenborough in Sheppey, creating six jobs.

Mr Knight said: "Sheppey is a really deprived area so we wanted to try and support it and do something in our backyard. The workers there are really reliable."

But, with demand increasing, Mr Knight, who also employs seven people at Ecoegg HQ, thinks he will be able to increase the number of Kent staff.



WASH THEM GO: TV's Kim Woodburn, who lives near Tunbridge Wells, has endorsed the Ecoegg made on Sheppey

He said: "Expansion is on the cards – we are getting orders left and right. I would like to double the Kent workforce by next year."

The company already sells to Italy and Germany and is launching in America and Canada this month.

TV personality Ms Woodburn, who lives near Tunbridge Wells, is promoting the product, which helped her with her eczema.

The 70-year-old said: "It is absolutely fabulous. I am delighted to be associated with it. I get offered many things to promote, but I don't approve of them and they end up in my garage and then donated to charity."

The TV 'Queen of Clean' has been busy recently as she gets ready to film a new Channel 4 show.

The details remain top secret, but it will involve celebrities like Gordon Ramsay and Gok Wan as well as retail guru Mary Portas.

Ms Portas will also be helping Ashford, Dartford and Margate reinvent their High Streets after they were chosen to be Portas Pilots this year.

Thousands of Olympics volunteers – this is a real legacy

Continued from front page

work they have put in, I don't think it's an accident we have more in London."

Asked whether the Games would inspire the next generation of sporting stars, Mr Hespe said: "I do believe there will be a continued increase in sport participation and people will have been inspired. It does take a lot of hard work, enthusiasm and commitment to reach that level."

But he stressed it wasn't just a sporting legacy sparked by the Games.

Kent is set to benefit from a £324 million boost to the economy up to 2016, directly attributable to London 2012.

"There are so many positives to come out of these Olympics that form the legacy: there's the benefits to business, trade, tourism, arts, sport, volunteering," said Mr Hespe, "focusing on volunteering in particular, this is a huge part."

It is estimated that 4,000 of the country's Games Makers are from Kent, working for free to help keep the Olympics running smoothly, from helping visitors to transporting athletes.

Two thousand more volunteers are signed up to the county's events team and a further 200 are part of the Games Time Kent Greeters, who meet and greet visitors.

Mr Hespe said: "We want to keep these experienced people. If they keep volunteering and we can get more people involved, this is a real legacy."

This week double Olympic gold medal winner Dame Kelly Holmes, from Hildenborough, pushed for compulsory PE in schools.

This target was abolished by education secretary Michael Gove, who also scrapped sports partnerships, which promoted participation in sport at grassroots level, as part of funding cuts.

But the county is continuing to support school participation through its Kent School Games programme which was launched in 2008. It sees pupils compete against other schools and this year involved 30,000 youngsters.

Sprinting sensation Adam Gemili, from Dartford, participated in the Games while at school.

Ashford runner Lisa Dobriskey, who made her Olympic debut in Beijing 2008, finishing fourth, also benefited from the county's sport facilities.

The 28-year-old is an ambassador for KCC's Free Access for National Sportspeople (FANS) scheme, which helps support performers through work with leisure centres, gyms, sports professionals, and local authorities.

"To be the best you need to train like the best and the quality of the facilities Kent has to offer allows athletes on the scheme to do just that," she said.

Sports minister and MP for Faversham and Mid-Kent Hugh Robertson vowed the London 2012 Olympics would "change British sport forever".

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LONDON 2012

Games closing ceremony dancer promises it will be an 'epic' night

By Marijke Cox
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Picture: MANFRED WERNER





Picture: DAVID ROSE/NOPP

IT WAS just two weeks ago that the nation was left open mouthed with wonder at the spectacle of the London 2012 opening ceremony.

And so much has happened since then, with Great Britain breaking records in the medals table and inspirational athletes creating a sense of pride across the UK.

It means the end of the Olympics could leave the nation feeling a little flat.

But it's not over yet. On Sunday at 9pm the closing ceremony is set to return viewers to that sense of awe felt during the opening event and experienced throughout the Games.

And with four billion people expected to tune in, it is likely to rival Danny Boyle's celebrated opening ceremony.

Taking part in the global spectacle is theatre director Max Reynolds from Dover.

The 23-year-old will be one of the dancers involved in Annie Lennox's performance. The Eurythmics star is just one of a host of musical acts due to perform at the show, including Take That, The Who, Jessie J and George Michael.

"It's going to be epic," said Mr Reynolds. "During rehearsals I've got to see some of the other performances and they are brilliant."

Mr Reynolds, who made it through two rounds of auditions to bag a part, said despite the nerves, he is looking forward to the ceremony.

"I'm in a dance piece during Annie Lennox's performance. It's very big and theatrical – it has a theme which incorporates a ghost ship, with dead souls of the sea – it's great. It's quite a heavy performance."

Rehearsals took place in a stadium in Essex this week. The ceremony will be held at the Olympic Park in Stratford.

Snippets about the show – choreographed by creative director Kim Gavin – have been released, including details about the set which includes replicas of the London Eye, Big Ben, and Tower Bridge.

The ceremony, entitled A Symphony of British Music, will celebrate the British music scene as one of its strongest cultural exports over the last 50 years.

It will also celebrate the achievements of our athletes and includes a handover from London to the next host city of the Games, Rio de Janeiro, for the 2016 Olympics.

The flame will also be extinguished, marking the end of the Games.

Mr Reynolds, who runs Lights Up production company, said it was a dream come true to be taking part.

"It's a massive honour to be part of the closing ceremony," he added.

The University Centre Folkestone graduate co-organised the Kent School Games closing ceremony in June.

"Although that was a much smaller show, I used my experience from the Olympics closing ceremony rehearsals," he said. "It's been good to see how productions are done in a big stadium compared to a theatre."

END: Max Reynolds will dance for Annie Lennox in the closing ceremony, which has a lot to live up to

NEWS IN BRIEF

Man kicked sick pony

A MAN who kicked his white skewbald mare pony and failed to get treatment for its severe diarrhoea and lice has been found guilty of neglect. Thomas Dunn, 26, of High Street, St Mary Cray, Sevenoaks, was convicted at Sevenoaks Magistrates Court. He was fined £1,500, given a three-month curfew order and disqualified from keeping animals for a year. RSPCA inspector Andrew Kirby visited the pony in Fawkham Road, West Kingsdown in May, 2011.

Jess has bulldog spirit

BATTERSEA Dogs and Cats Home at Brands Hatch has celebrated Team GB's medal bonanza by nicknaming one of its dogs after the golden girl of the Olympics, heptathlete Jessica Ennis. A homeless hulldog has been nicknamed Jess and staff hope her namesake's success will rub off on her, as she searches for a new home. Jess's real name is Loki, but staff hope that her new nickname will help her catch the attention of a new owner.

Violent footballer jailed

A 25-year-old footballer from Headcorn has been jailed for nine months after punching an opponent in the face during a match in Sutton Valence. Edward Judge, of Moat Road, pleaded guilty to grievous bodily harm on November 12 at East Sutton Park. The victim and Judge challenged for a ball, and Judge punched the man, 26. His jaw was broken in two places and titanium plates had to be inserted in his face.

LONDON 2012

Now let's all get behind our Paralympic medal hopefuls

IT'S soon the turn of the Paralympians and a celebrations of their Games will be taking to the streets of Kent.

A Kent County Council roadshow will travel across the county to mark the Games, which run from August 9-September 9, and where some local athletes have high hopes of medal success.

They include Canterbury shooter Nathan Milgate, archer Richard Hennahane from Chatham, and Tunbridge Wells table tennis star Will Bayley.

And Brands Hatch also will be the setting for the Paralympic bike races.

KCC said it hopes residents will show the same support as they did for the start of the Olympic Games.

The Kent Paralympic Roadshow is taking to the streets to profile local athletes and give everyone the chance to come along and try out sitting volleyball, goalball, boccia, and many other sports.

Kent County Council's sports team will be visiting venues across the county with a double decker bus packed with a range of sports equipment and stopping off to meet local people of all ages and abilities.

The roadshow is at the following venues from 9am-4pm, and 9am-8pm at Ashford:

Adizone, River Front, Gravesend, August 14; Cyclopark, Gravesend, August 15; Swanley Recreation Ground, August 16; McArthur Glen Retail Outlet, Ashford, August 17; Dover Leisure Centre, August 18; Gallagher Stadium, Maidstone United Football Ground, August 20; Hop Farm, Paddock Wood, August 21; Tunbridge Wells town centre and Calverley Gardens, August 22; and Medway Park, in support of the British Transplant Games, August 23.

KCC's Cllr Mike Hill said: "The roadshow is for everyone, regardless of ability, to come along, learn more about disability sport, try them out for themselves and enjoy the excitement of the Paralympic Games."

Salmestone Grange

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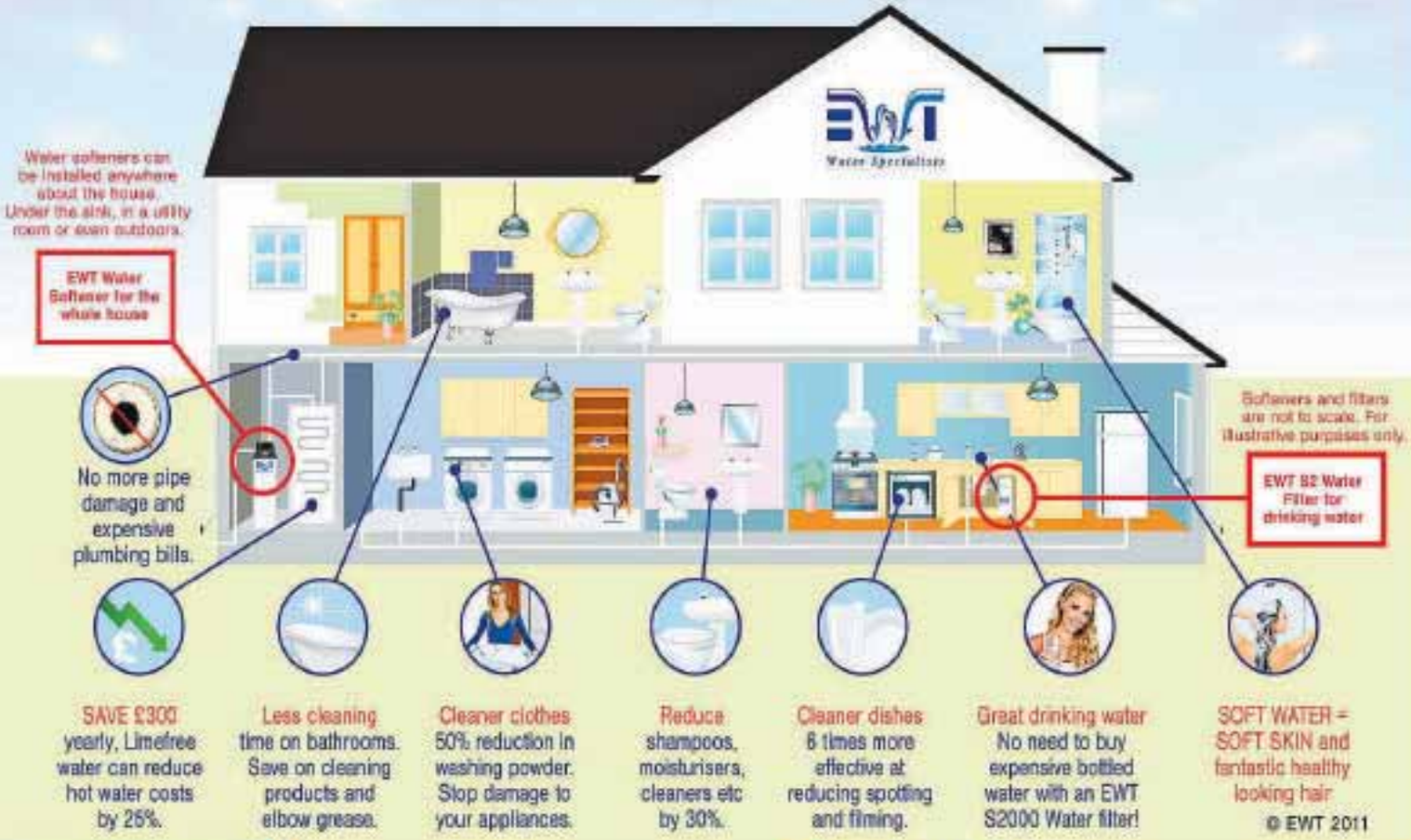
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CAMPAIGN

Foster's 'crazy' funding plan for hub airport good news for campaigners

By Marijke Cox
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AIRPORT bosses have condemned funding plans for Lord Foster's hub airport vision.

In comments which can only help to damage proposals for an airport in the Thames Estuary, owners of British Airways and Heathrow criticised the funding plan for the architect's Isle of Grain proposal.

Last month Lord Foster and his team devised a plan they believe would help raise funds to pay for the new airport, which would be part of a multi-billion pound, four-runway transport hub on the north Kent coast.

They proposed funding the airport partly through landing charges – around £8 billion – paid by airlines operating at Heathrow between 2018 and 2028.

A further £11bn, they claim, could come from landing charges at the new airport in the decade after its opening in 2028.

The total estimated bill for the estuary airport is being put at around £23bn by Lord Foster – £20bn for the airport and £3bn to provide rail links to the hub, although campaigners argue costs are more likely to reach the £50bn mark.

Lord Foster's team said funding could also be acquired through development of land around the proposed hub airport, and the closure and redevelopment of Heathrow.

But chief executive of International Airlines Group – the parent of BA – Willie Walsh dismissed the "crazy" suggestion of using landing fees.

He told the Financial Times: "The idea that airlines currently operating at Heathrow would fund the development of an airport they are not going to use, to the tune of £8bn, is crazy, and we will fight it."

He said the "bottom line" was that airlines operating at Heathrow have not committed to go to the new airport and "won't commit".

Chief of Heathrow's operator BAA, Colin Matthews, said the company was not interested in relinquishing Heathrow in exchange for a stake in a new hub in the Thames Estuary.

He said to take an interest "you have to think it is going to happen, and we don't think it is".



RIDICULED: Funding plan for Estuary airport would see Heathrow Airport charge airlines landing fees

For Lord Foster's funding plan to go ahead it would also need approval from the Government and regulators.

This latest clash by airline bosses and Lord Foster will add fuel to the anti-airport fight. Campaigners – including this newspaper – are battling plans for an airport on the north Kent coast.

A number of options have been put forward, including Lord Foster's transport hub including an airport, rail links and energy distribution routes, and London Mayor Boris Johnson's hope of a floating airport in the Thames estuary.

But while they push forward with their visions, this latest funding spat and the opportunity of alternatives, including a third runway at Heathrow, could see their dreams in tatters.

Medway Council is vehemently opposed to any such airport and said with capacity in the South East an issue, better use should be made of existing runway capacity.

"An airport on the estuary would not only cost tens of billions to build, it would also be on the wrong side of London, on a site shared with one of Europe's largest liquefied natural gas plants and have a devastating impact on local communities, with many villages simply being wiped out," said a council spokesman.

"There are already five airports serving London – two more than New York has – and existing runways such as Manston could be better used to meet the needs of the capital.

"High-speed rail links to Birmingham will also unlock the potential of its airport.

"A report by Parsons Brinckerhoff, expert aviation consultants, also found that capacity could be increased at many of the South East's existing airports all within existing planning consent.

"For example, it states that capacity could increase by more than six million at Gatwick, from 40,000 to one million at Manston and at Stansted it could be almost doubled."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bleeding dog dumped

A DOG found suffering and bleeding after an amateur surgeon bodged a tail docking op has been named Stumpy. The tan and white Staffordshire cross was found lashed to a park bench in Gravesend. It was rushed to a vet for an operation to remove dead flesh and seal the wound. It was reported to the police who took it to the PDSA veterinary hospital in Gillingham. It was later picked up by Gravesham council's stray dog service and has been in the care of the council.

Cigarette thefts arrests

SEVEN people have been arrested following cigarette thefts across the county. The suspects, all from the Dartford area and aged 20-35, were released on bail pending enquiries into the case, which involves 44 reports of cigarette thefts since October last year. The first was at a shop in Meopham and incidents then occurred in Medway, Maidstone, Dartford, Gravesham, Sevenoaks, Tonbridge and Whitstable. The total retail value is more than £250,000.

Don't trim your hedge

GARDENERS Kent have been asked not to trim their hedges, as they may disturb nesting birds and their young. Warmer and drier August weather means people are more likely to tackle overgrown hedges, but the RSPB recommends leaving them until the end of the month to allow nesting garden birds to breed safely. Samantha Stokes, from RSPB South East, said: "The hedge is a place of safety for many birds."

ENTERTAINMENT

Pantiles jazz cancelled over concerns for public safety

UNDERAGE drinking and rowdiness has forced organisers in Tunbridge Wells to pull the plug on a popular jazz event.

The police voiced concerns that Jazz on the Pantiles was getting out of control.

Officers said the licence holder Targetfollow decided to voluntarily cancel the event until further notice, after numbers grew to overwhelming levels and they felt they could no longer meet obligations around public safety. Some 3,000 people visited the event on July 26.

Jackie Eslami, who organises markets and other events at the Pantiles for the Association of Pantiles Traders said: "I think it's down to controlling it. I do all the functions and it is down to the organisers to get it right.

"And Targetfollow has been fair all along, so there is a big, big problem."

The police said the decision follows a host of complaints from local residents about underage drinking, nuisance behaviour, and concerns due to the large numbers attending.

Acting Chief Inspector Justin Watts said: "Following numerous complaints from local residents about nuisance behaviour, a meeting was held with licence holder Targetfollow. This comes after the jazz evening on July 26 was attended by around 3,000 people, with only four members of security provided to manage crowd issues.

"The licence holder decided to voluntarily suspend subsequent events after the August 2. We will be working closely with the licence holder in advance of next year's event."

Targetfollow's senior portfolio manager Chris Jones said: "The company made its decision to suspend Jazz Nights on the Pantiles very reluctantly and only after detailed consultation with the police and licensing authority."



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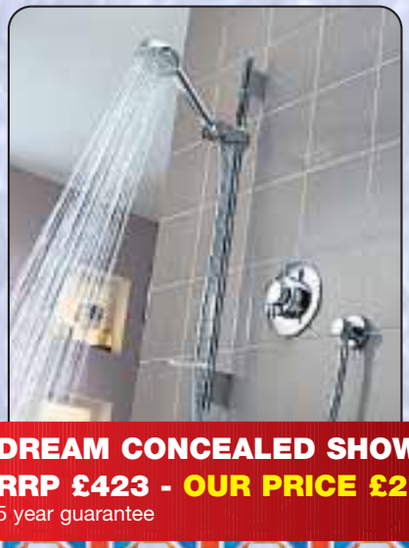
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HEALTH

Athletes celebrate life at Transplant Games

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk







ALIVE: Kidney recipients Nadine Guest, Sandie Tiley, and Sue Hills have all previously won medals at the British Transplant Games

AFTER the thrill of the Olympics comes the British Transplant Games, which are being held in Gillingham for the first time.

It's one of the largest multi-sport events in the UK, with 600 transplant patients taking part in track and field events, such as running, the high jump and a mini-marathon.

Competitors have spoken of their battle against adversity and a gritty determination not to let their operations beat their desire to compete.

Organised by Medway Council, the games take place at Medway Park, from August 23-26 and the events are free to watch.

Laurence Sandum, 52, from Canterbury received new kidneys after being diagnised with renal failure in his 30s.

He said: "While I had been given a new lease of life and my two daughters, who were 10 and seven at the time, had their dad back, I knew a terrible price had been paid. I felt so sad that somewhere, a family was grieving for their loved one."

Sue Hills, 54, from Ashford, had a kidney transplant at 39.

The chairman of the Kent Kidney Patients Association said: "My donor was a 28-year-old man who had died in a road traffic accident. I am so grateful that he was carrying his donor card and that his family supported his decision.

"It changed my life."

Sandie Tiley, 60, from Birchington, had a kidney at 48 from her best friend. She said: "It was a special time for us both as we travelled to and from Guy's Hospital in London. We kept each other's morale up and remained positive."

By the time she was just 18 months old, Nadine Guest, from Deal, already had both her kidneys removed and was on dialysis four times a week.

Now six, she has spent much of her early life in hospital.

Mum Adele said: "All she talks about is the British Transplant Games, as it is great fun and a chance to meet up with friends she's met at hospital over the years."

Phil Penhaligan, 46, from Larkfield, donated his kidney in 2010 to his nine-year-old son. He said: "George was healthy but contracted meningococcal septicaemia in 2006, aged five. He lost the function of both kidneys, some fingers and fingertips. It nearly killed him, he was in hospital for three months."

And Verlie Mayes, 65, from Bearsted, allowed organs from her son James, 20, to be used when was brain damaged.

The retired nurse and midwife said: "Even in our grief, we didn't hesitate. We knew it was what he would have wanted. It was the right thing to do.

"Out of something so awful came some good. James saved the lives of three people – and that has had such a positive impact on our grieving."

Dr Robert Stewart, co-medical director of NHS Kent and Medway, said there are 239 people in Kent and Medway waiting for an organ transplant and the gap between those in need and organ numbers is "getting wider".

He said: "Around 618,000 people in Kent and Medway are donor card carriers. One donor can save the lives of several people. Between April 2010 and March 2011, 3,740 organ transplants were carried out in the UK thanks to 2,044 donors.

"Organs are often donated by living donors, who give an organ to a loved one.

"They are also donated by strangers motivated by the desire to help those in need and families who make the incredibly difficult decision to donate a loved one's organs in the midst of their grief."

■ **To join the register visit organdonation.nhs.uk or call 0300 123 23 23.**



SOCIAL SERVICES

Vulnerable teen forced to live in tent for months after councils' failings

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A 16-YEAR-OLD boy was forced to live in a tent for nine months and sell his belongings to survive after local authorities failed to provide him with accommodation and support, an investigation has found.

And now Kent County Council has been blasted by a government watchdog for the third time in two weeks for failing to care for vulnerable residents.

The county council has been criticised alongside Dover District Council by local government ombudsman Anne Seex. Homeless charity Shelter has also slammed the councils.

Ms Seex said the authorities failed to care for a homeless teenager, known only as J. His plight was so bad the councils have paid him just over £5,000 each in compensation.

The teenager had been forced to live in a tent for nine months, suffering physical and mental ill-health. He had also to sell or give away his belongings.

Ms Seex said in her report that Kent failed to assess the teenager as a 'child in need' and accommodate him. That effectively denied him his right to advice and assistance.

Dover compounded the youth's problems when it failed to accept him as homeless and provide suitable temporary accommodation, or contact Kent children's services about him.

Ms Seex said: "These failures are inexcusable. They happened after important court rulings had clarified the roles and responsibilities that housing authorities and children's services authorities have to homeless children of 16 and 17."

She added: "J was remarkably determined and resilient in the face of crushingly difficult circumstances and was well supported by the youth centre. The failures of the two councils could have easily tipped him into a spiral of drug use and crime."

J became homeless when he was 16 after being in KCC care. He was returned to his mother, but she told him to leave when he objected to her relationship with an intravenous drug user.

He applied for housing to Dover Council, but was turned away. A youth centre manager told Kent children's services about J.

Those contacts were not recorded and for six months Kent children's services did nothing.

Dover did finally offer bedroom and breakfast accommodation and then a one-bed flat, but J refused saying they were in areas where he could be tempted into drugs or crime.

For six weeks, Dover refused to accept a £1,000 guarantee from Kent children's services so he could have another home.

The ombudsman found maladministration because Kent County Council failed to respond to being told about J and failed to fulfil its duties to him under the Children Act 1989, and Dover failed to follow its joint protocol with Kent.

Both councils were ordered to ensure staff knew how to care for homeless people aged 16-21.

Chief executive of homeless charity Shelter Campbell Robb said: "Despite several court rulings in recent years confirming local authorities' responsibilities to homeless teenagers, many homeless 16 and 17-year-olds are still not getting the support they need and are entitled to when they approach them for help."

Dover council said it has improved the way it handles these cases, with close links to social services and the appointment of a housing options advisor.

A spokesman said staff are better trained and there is a "close liaison with other agencies dealing with young people to ensure joined up working".

And they added: "The young person in question has been in allocated appropriate council housing since 2009, with tenancy support provided for the first two years."

KCC cabinet member for specialist children's cervices Cllr Jenny Whittle, said: "There is no mistaking that the system as a whole failed. We accept our role in that and offer our sincerest apologies to this young man."

She said referrals are now dealt with in an efficient and timely way, and added: "KCC and its partners are working together more closely to protect and support vulnerable children, young people and their families.

"While this in no way makes up for this young man's experience, I hope it offers some reassurance that lessons have been learned and procedures changed."



LET DOWN: Both Dover council and KCC failed to provide any accommodation for the boy called J

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ENTERTAINMENT

Kite festival's silver jubilee fun

TESTON kite festival is on Saturday and Sunday, and will be celebrating its silver jubilee.

It runs from 10.30am-5pm each day at Teston Bridge Country Park in Teston Lane.

Organisers say the festival is unusual as there is no arena fencing the display kites in, and the public can walk among the kite flyers to ask questions and may even get to fly some of the amazing kites that will be on display.

All the kite flyers attending will be happy to help if you have problems flying your own kite and will be glad to give advice on how best to fly.

There will also be a stall selling kites if you don't have one already.

CRIME

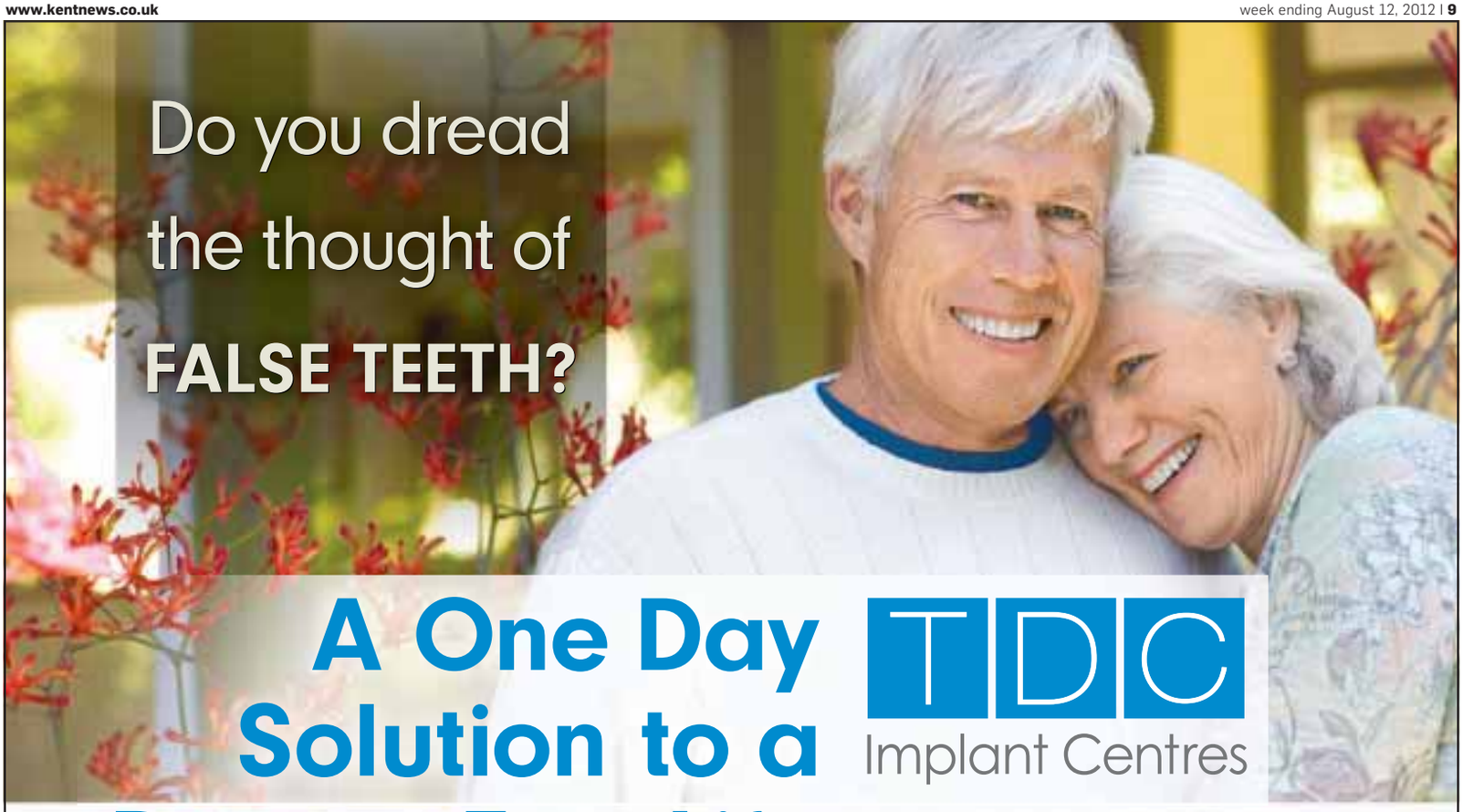
Thefts warning to passengers

BRITISH Transport Police officers are warning passengers to remain alert after a number of thefts on trains and at stations in Kent.

A number of incidents have taken place on trains going in and out of the capital, and commuters are being warned to keep an eye on their property. Tips include carrying valuable items in a secure inside pocket, and keeping mobile phones out of site.

In one incident in Dartford a laptop was snatched from a sleeping woman on a train between Charing Cross and Kent. As the train approached Dartford, two men grabbed the laptop before running off the train and out of the station.

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CRIME

100 days until the poll that will transform police force

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

THE countdown has started for the biggest change to policing in decades.

One hundred days from now, voters will take to the polls and elect the individual who will replace Kent Police Authority (KPA) as the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC).

The successful candidate will have the power to hire and fire the chief constable, set the police budget, write and publish a police and crime plan, and commission services.

They will not run the police but be "the voice of the people" and hold the force to account. The chief constable will remain responsible for operational matters.

The PCC will be paid £85,000, irrespective of days worked, and will decide how policing money is spent.

Chief executive of KPA Graham Hooper said it was important that people in Kent cast their vote on November 15.

There are fears the turnout will be extremely poor, with some suggesting just 15 per cent of voters will make their mark on ballot papers.

"This is a very exciting time and a massive change to how Kent Police is held to account," said Mr Hooper.

"It is the biggest shake-up to policing in 50 years and I urge the public to get involved by voting in the elections on November 15."

The PCC will officially take over from KPA on November 22, when the existing authority dissolves.

While the successful candidate will hold the power, a Police and Crime Panel will be put in place to scrutinise the PCC's actions.

The panel will also be able to veto decisions on the tax precept and the appointment of a new chief constable.

But the PCC will have the final say, even if opposing recommendations are put forward.

Work is already under way to ensure a smooth handover between KPA and the PCC.

Chief executive of Dover District Council Nadeem Aziz is the Police Area Returning Officer and will oversee the voting process.

Electors have until October 31 to register to vote and results of the poll will be announced on November 16.

The election is expected to cost around £1.5 million and there will be approximately 1,000 polling stations across the county.

A supplementary vote system will be used, where voters will select their first and second preferences and if no candidate gains 50 per cent the two candidates with the highest number of first preference votes go forward to a second round of counting. Ballots for the unsuccessful candidates will be reallocated to the top two.

The official list of hopefuls will be announced on Tuesday, October 23.

So far the list of prospective candidates is Medway councillor Craig Mackinlay (Conservative); Ashford councillor Harriet Yeo (Labour); Steven Uncles (English Democrats); and independent hopefuls Ann Barnes, Dai Liyanage, Ken Little, Fran Croucher, Fergus Wilson and Ian Driver.



ELECTION DAY: The new position of Police and Crime Commissioner will be 'the voice of the people' and will have the power to hire and fire the chief constable



ENVIRONMENT

McCloud says Olympic win won't be seen for two years

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

WHILE the world watches the conclusion of the Olympic Games this weekend, the race to deliver on its legacy in the years to come goes under starter's orders, according to the man who has brought design and sustainability into our living rooms.

Kevin McCloud is best known as the frontman of Channel 4's phenomenally successful series Grand Designs.

And the designer, broadcaster and writer believes it will be two years before people can start to judge whether the Olympic Park has delivered on its promise.

As an official sustainability ambassador for London 2012, he has been closely involved in the park's creation and, crucially, its long-term transformation from Olympic venue to living, breathing, community resource.

It is a topic he will discuss in-depth when he appears as special guest at the Smallholding Fair at Sissinghurst over the weekend of August 18-19.

And he is passionate about communities becoming more sustainable by growing their own food.

Speaking to this newspaper, he explained: "The very best time to visit the Olympic Park will be in 2014, when all the remediation work has taken place. All the temporary structures will be taken down, all the white PVC will be gone, and what you'll be left with is a selection of magnificent buildings in a park the size of Hyde Park.



Picture: LOCOG

BIG SPORTS DAY: Judge the Olympic Park in 2012 says Kevin McCloud

"It was never designed to be an Olympic site – it was designed first of all as a project of urban regeneration with this park attached, into which they could temporarily fit an Olympic event.

"The Games last for two-weeks, not 25 years. The Olympics is just a big party, a big sports day. There will be a hangover afterwards, but then we'll see if it works."

The vision is for the park to become the central hub of a wide range of practical green spaces – promoting community use, food growing and places of calm – situated alongside some magnificent sporting venues.

Mr McCloud adds: "What strikes me is there is a fantastic opportunity for a legacy park.

"There are already 50 pocket parks projects going on around the Olympic site. Those pocket parks are everything from playgrounds to food growing networks.

"Think of the Olympic Park as the billion pound mothership and all the other 100 parks – as there will be dotted around – as green infrastructure, connected by tissue served to unite and bring respite and calm, benefitial architectural.

"But they offer fantastic potential for food growing."

It all fits into a personal bugbear – that of landscaping and the value it adds to lives and communities but is so often difficult to quantify.

He adds: "So often, people employed to oversee regeneration projects focus on the hard stuff you can add up; the businesses moving in, the shopping centre, the transport infrastructure.

"Landscaping is really hard to justify. One thing I will talk about at Sissinghurst is partly about the Olympics and partly the work I've been doing with a great landscape architect, Luke Engleback, who lives near Tunbridge Wells.

"He works with me on the housing schemes my company has done. We did one scheme where we put in £38,000 of trees and plants. It was about 42 houses so it worked out to be about £800 per home.

"The Horticultural Trade Association came up with an algorithm to monetise landscaping – the preventive health benefits, food growing – how much it improves lives, or saves the health service.

"Using that we discovered the investment was worth £500,000. No developer can invest that much in a building and deliver that level of value. You can with soft green stuff. It has huge value and brings enormous benefits to communities."

As for his TV work, Mr McCloud will front a new series of Grand Designs on Channel 4 in September. He is also fronting a new show on the channel – Man Made Home – which charts his efforts to build an 'off-grid' self-sufficient shed on land he owns. It is due to air this autumn.



Picture: GLENN DEARING

HOMES: Presenter Kevin McCloud believes that landscaping delivers massive benefits to residents

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HOTSHOT: City's Mario Balotelli

FOOTBALL

We're loving it: trio set to escort football stars at Community Shield

By Dean Kilpatrick
dean.kilpatrick@archant.co.uk

IT'S a dream of many boys to walk out onto the pitch alongside the world's best footballers, but for three Kent youngsters it will become a reality.

Luke King, Charlie Stephens and Ben Crockett will accompany Chelsea and Manchester City players ahead of the Community Shield match on Sunday.

The trio will be players' mascots in front of a capacity Villa Park in Birmingham and a worldwide television audience of millions.

They entered a McDonald's competition to be at the curtain-raiser for the 2012-13 football season alongside FA Cup winner's Chelsea and Premier League title winners Manchester City.

The prospect of walking alongside the likes of Frank Lampard and Carlos Tevez is proving to be quite a thrill for the young boys.

Luke King, 8, from Dartford, said: "I can't wait to walk out onto the pitch with all those fans.

"When my mum told me I had won, I was so excited. All my friends at school are going to watch the game on TV and look out for me."

His mother Tina Bolton said: "He's an Arsenal fan, so when I told him he would have to put a Chelsea shirt on, he wasn't too keen, but when I explained what it was about he was really excited. He hopes to hold Frank Lampard's hand.

"It's going to be amazing."

Luke will be with the Chelsea squad while the other Kent boys will line-up next to City.

Charlie Stephens, 9, from Aylesford, also plays for a youth team and said he couldn't wait to meet the likes of Mario Balotelli and Joe Hart.

He said: "I'm very excited. I have told some of my aunties and uncles, but I haven't told many of my friends so it'll be a big surprise."

Mum Maureen added: "I'm not sure who is more excited – his dad or Charlie. Charlie's really into football and he's very up on the players. I'm excited because it's a really big opportunity."

Joining him will be seven-year-old Ben Crockett from Gillingham.

Ben had always wanted to see a Premier League side in action and managed to see Stoke City when they played Gillingham at Priestfield in the FA Cup in January.

However, he now has the chance to walk out with the title winners.

His dad Simon Crockett said: "Most of the club Ben plays for will be watching TV and a lot of our friends will be too.





LEAD THE WAY: Charlie Stevens and Ben Crockett will walk out at Villa Park on Sunday alongside the players from Chelsea and Man City

"It's going to be strange seeing him on the pitch with 22 of the best players in England."

The trio will also get to meet World Cup winner Sir Geoff Hurst in the run up to kick-off.

Sir Geoff, McDonald's director of football, said: "This year's FA Community Shield looks set to be a great match.

"I'm sure we'll see lots of passion on the pitch from the players and the fans, and it will be a great experience for the youngsters – one they'll never forget."

The Community Shield kicks off at 1.30pm.

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News

TRANSPORT

Drivers warned of dangers posed by foreign motorists

By Marijke Cox
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A RISE in crashes involving foreign drivers has sparked a campaign warning motorists to be extra vigilant on Kent's roads.

Thousands of foreign drivers travel on the county's network every day, including a staggering number of lorries where 87 per cent of all international road haulage coming into the UK travels through Dover and the Channel Tunnel.



The latest crash figures relating to foreign drivers show a rise over the last three years, in which the number of incidents increased from 154, to 282 between 2009-10.

While the 2011 figures showed a drop to 227, crashes involving foreign lorries rose from 57 to 70 between 2010-11.

In response to the rise, Kent County Council's road safety team has joined up with the Port of Dover and Eurotunnel to re-launch a campaign used in previous years encouraging people to be extra vigilant.

"This isn't a witch-hunt against foreign drivers," said Steve Horton, KCC road safety team leader.

"We're just informing them about our roads and things to look out for to help them make informative decisions and be safe."

He said while crashes will still happen, drivers can avoid them by being extra cautious.

"If a lorry driver is in the left-hand lane on a roundabout, for example, it doesn't necessarily mean he's turning left or going straight on, he might be turning right, but needs a wider turning space," he said.

Leaflets have been printed in nine different languages offering information to overseas visitors about driving on UK roads. They include advice about speed limits, road signs and other things to look out for which may differ from the Continent.

As well as the leaflets, which are available to pick up on board cross-Channel ferries and can be downloaded from the road safety website, the launch saw foreign lorry drivers handed frensel lenses which improve blind spot visibility and reduce side-swiping.

Maidstone-based motoring law expert David Barton, who has 30 years' experience of representing drivers in Kent, threw his weight behind the campaign. He warned motorists to be extra cautious of foreign HGV drivers.

"Whenever you see a foreign number plate, be extra vigilant as foreign truck drivers might not know our rules," he said.

■ **You can download the safety leaflets at www.kentroadsafety.com.**



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SAFETY

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A BOMB disposal team were called to Sheppey last week to detonate a device believed to have been left behind from World War Two.

The bomb was discovered on Great Bells Farm, Eastchurch, which has been purchased by the Environment Agency and given to the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds to turn into a bird reserve.

Before any work can commence on the site, a survey had to be undertaken for unexploded devices, as Eastchurch was bombed a number of times during the war.

The survey found the device hidden underground on August 2 and staff contacted Kent Police who then called in the bomb disposal squad.

A spokesman for the squad said they are often called out to sites in Kent to dispose of bombs left behind by the Germans and British.

At 7.30pm the controlled explosion took place and was captured by local photographer Phil Haynes.



Kent Life August edition On sale now

TECHNOLOGY

Rural areas 'miss out' on broadband benefits as speed overtakes access

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

COUNTY Hall chiefs behind a major project aimed at bringing superfast broadband to communities across Kent have insisted it will make a substantial difference to everyone.

This follows criticism by the House of Lords communications committee, which has claimed the nationwide Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) project, which includes the Kent County Council scheme, is "preoccupied with speed rather than access".

The committee argued that instead of focusing on superfast broadband and enhancing services for those who already have good connections, there needed to be the creation of a "future proof" national network to give everyone access to broadband.

KCC is working with government agency BDUK to deliver the county's scheme to ensure properties have access to either a superfast or basic service by 2015.

The authority has invested £10 million in the upgrade and the Government has match-funded this with £9.87m.

Broadband providers will invest the remaining £23m needed as long as there is demand, and so KCC launched the Make Kent Quicker campaign so people could register their desire for the sevice.

But this latest criticism from the House of Lords' committee claims such projects are focused too much on speed and not access, particularly for rural communities who miss out.

A KCC spokesman argued, however, that the county's scheme looked to transform the network in Kent and Medway, with at least 90 per cent of properties accessing superfast services by 2015 and the remaining 10 per cent having basic speeds of at least 2Mb per second.

"These targets for the Kent and Medway project are in line with the Government's published targets for broadband," he said.

"Signing up to these targets is a condition of securing the available government funding.

"It is clear that the approach recommended by the House of Lords' committee is dependent on significant reforms to the regulations that govern the broadband market.

"These are changes that the regulator Ofcom has recently stated it is not minded to undertake. Without these changes, their recommendations cannot be achieved.

"We believe the Kent and Medway broadband project will lead to a substantial change in the availability of broadband services for communities and businesses.

"We will continue working to secure the best possible outcomes for Kent, within the funding, regulations and national policies."

The Country Land and Business Association (CLA) for the county welcomed the Lords' committee report and said rather than superfast speeds, access for all "should be a guiding principle".

CLA South East acting director Tim Brock said: "Recognition by the Lords' committee that access is more important than speed is extremely welcome."

News

TELEVISION

MasterChef presenter uncovers family secrets

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk





TEARS: Gregg Wallace (right) pictured in Whitstable, and (left) as a young child with his maternal grandfather Wilfred Springett

TV CELEBRITY foodie Gregg Wallace already has a tangled personal life, but after appearing on the hit family tree show TV Who Do You Think You Are? he was shocked to discover his family's buried secrets.

The Whitstable resident, 47, appears in the second episode of the latest BBC series. The MasterChef presenter's show will be broadcast on BBC One at 9pm on August 22.

The genealogy series delves into the ancestry of some of the UK's best-known faces.

The BBC said: "In this poignant episode of Who Do You Think You Are? Gregg Wallace sets out to solve a long-standing family mystery. What happened to his great grandfather, Henry Roland Springett, who abandoned his wife and children, including Gregg's grandfather, and was thought to have deserted the Navy?

"Gregg turns detective and follows the clues that enable him to piece together Henry's life. The journey proves to be an emotional roller coaster as Gregg uncovers a tale of infidelity, heart-breaking tragedy, and cruel fate.

"Gregg is also given an intriguingly formal portrait of his great great grandmother. On the trail of her story, Gregg is shocked to discover the origin of the portrait and to find out where she ended her days.

"The tales of catastrophe and misfortune he uncovers leave Gregg reeling emotionally."

Wallace is no stranger to personal strife himself. It's reported the 47-year-old is seeing a 26-year-old model after they met at the Ideal Home Show in June.

The father-of-two was married to third wife Heidi, but they became estranged in March after 14 months of marriage.

■ **More news and sport at www.yourcanterbury.co.uk.**

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CHEERS: Eddie Merckx (right) during visit to Kent

Tour legend Merckx backs cycling drive

By Dean Kilpatrick
dean.kilpatrick@archant.co.uk

CYCLING legend Eddie Merckx has backed a campaign to get people back on the saddle.

Kent County Council is hoping to use the success of Bradley Wiggins at the Tour de France and in the GB cycling team at the Olympics as a springboard to get people on their bikes.

Merckx, who won the Tour de France five times during the late 60s and early 70s, has added his voice to the campaign as he visited the county.

The rider, who is considered the most accomplished cyclist in the history of the sport, rode through Maidstone with fellow Belgian riders and said the reception the group got showed the enthusiasm for cycling in the county.

The 67-year-old said: "I and my fellow riders received a wonderful reception in Kent.

"Young cycling fans from local clubs rode in with us for the last couple of miles and it was fantastic to see so many people excited about London 2012."

Merckx has triumphed in all the major competitions in the sport, also winning the Giro d'Italia and Vuelta a España in his long and successful career.

However, he also knows the health benefits of cycling, and remains in the saddle in between working as a commentator for a Belgian TV broadcaster.

He added:"I am also delighted to hear about the work going on in Kent to get more people into cycling. Cycling has been my life, and my advice is go on, give it a try because it is fun and can make a big difference to your health."

Some 35 Sky Ride Local rides will take place in the county over the summer, which will see thousands of people take to the road on their bikes after several successful London rides.

This year saw the opening of Europe's largest cycling park in Gravesend and there are hopes there is a growing momentum for the sport.

KCC deputy cabinet member for environment, highways and waste Cllr David Brazier said: "With the recent record-breaking Tour de France win and all the Olympics coverage, cycling is increasingly capturing the public imagination.

We want more people – young and old – to enjoy the benefits of cycling.

"We have fantastic facilities in Kent, such as the newly opened Cyclopark in Gravesend, and we have teamed up with British Cycling and Sky to run a summer of fantastic rides across the county to encourage more people to get involved."

■ **For more details about the rides, go to www.goskyride.com.**

FIRE

Woman suffers burns during fire at her flat

A WOMAN has been left with burns after a fire in a Tunbridge Wells flat.

Two fire engines attended the incident at a first floor flat in Gladstone Road, Rusthall, on Monday.

The woman was treated for burns and smoke inhalation and it is believed she was taken to hospital.

The cause of the fire is not yet known.

FOOD

Kent Crisps scoops Great Taste Award

KENT Crisps' Ashmore Cheese and Onion crisps have won gold in the Great Taste Awards for the second year running. The awards are organised by the Guild of Fine Food to celebrate the UK's best speciality foods. Judges commended the Ashmore Cheese and Onion flavour crisps for their "crisp texture" and "well-balanced, clean flavour". Kent Crisps are produced by Quex Foods in Birchington using home-grown potatoes.

CRIME

Man knocked out after brick thrown in his face

A 52-year-old was left needing stitches in his cheek after being hit in the face with a brick in Folkestone. The man was walking in the harbour area between 5-5.30pm on Friday, July 27, when a brick was thrown at him. He was knocked unconscious and taken to the William Harvey Hospital where he needed seven stitches to his cheek. He also had bruising and swelling and a cracked tooth following the assault.



ENTERTAINMENT

Folk and ska fans head to music festivals by the sea

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk





TUNE IN: Left, Bad Manners are one of the bands performing at Skabour, while Sheelanagig are among the acts lined up for the ever-popular folk week

THOUSANDS of music fans are set to descend on Kent seaside towns this weekend as two very different music festivals get under way.

It will be Doc Martens and Ben Sherman shirts at the ready in Folkestone as stompers return for the popular three-day Skabour festival, an annual music event devised by John Sims, aka Teflon, the man behind the black and white imagery of the famous 2 Tone label, which represented 1970s bands including Madness and The Specials.

Along the coast in Broadstairs, however, it couldn't be more different, with the return of one of the country's biggest and most celebrated folk festivals, with morris dancers taking to the streets, a huge torch procession, and hundreds of live musical performances from August 10-17.

The packed programme for this year's Broadstairs Folk Week includes Eddi Reader, the Scottish singer who has performed with the likes of Eurythmics and Alison Moyet, reggae poet Benjamin Zephaniah with his interactive poetry, and folk stalwarts Martin Carthy and Dave Swarbrick with the winner of the Radio 2 folk awards Lucy Ward. Folk week favourites including Clarence the Dragon, and a host of morris dancers will be making appearances, too.

Festival director Jo Tuffs said if the weather was as good as predicted it looked set to be a brilliant week.

"There's a mix of outside and under-cover performances so it doesn't matter if the weather is not great, but it's always good when the sun comes out," she said. "When it comes to folk week though people do have this dogged determination to come out and have fun whatever the weather.

"The really amazing thing is people actually take the week off work for folk week, to holiday in their own town, that's quite rare in England."

Some 100,000 people are expected to attend the week.

The fun started on Friday, with ticketed music events at the Pavilion, Upton School, and the concert marquee, and with the popular torch procession due to take place Saturday night to really get the festival going.

But while people in Broadstairs are tapping their toes to folk music, revellers in Folkestone will be stomping to ska favourites with the return of the Skabour festival.

Launched three years ago by John Sims, it has grown due to its popularity and this year boasts favourites Bad Manners and The Duallers.

Set in the harbour area and at the Quarterhouse in Tontine Street, the festival has become a go-to destination for legions of 2 Tone and ska fans.

Reel Big Fish is another of the names performing, promising another of their hyperactive stage shows with juvenile humour and ironic covers of new wave pop ska.

Pop-up Skabour shops selling retro vinyl, CDs, T-shirts and other ska memorabilia will be located in the harbour area, along with music and entertainment.

Skabour first launched in 2010, when graphic designer Sims, who lives in Hawkinge, came up with the idea of having bands at Folkestone harbour as part of his Teflon This Art 2 Tone exhibition.

For a full programme see www.folkestoneskabourfestival.co.uk.

Also, see www.broadstairsfolkweek.org.uk for the folk week programme.

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News

LAW

More accused will be tried using 'virtual court' system



By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THE 'virtual court' system is being expanded across Kent with the aim of speeding up justice

Just weeks ago, a Lithuanian lorry driver was banned for drink driving just two hours after being charged by the police.

He had been stopped at Dover, breathalysed and found to be four times over the limit. He was charged at 9.21am, and after appearing before a magistrate using the virtual court system, he was banned from the road at 11.35am.

The system uses high-tech equipment so a defendant can sit in front of a camera in a special room at a police station, and be seen in a courtroom. Trials and hearings are then conducted in the normal way.

So far more than 2,200 people in the county have appeared using the new system, since it was introduced in May, 2009.

Just a couple of stations were equipped at its launch, but this has now been extended to Ebbsfleet, Medway, Maidstone, Tonbridge, Folkestone, Margate, and Canterbury.

The Ministry of Justice said: "In addition we have live links in operation at Ashford, Coldharbour and Bluewater. Kent is a shining beacon in country for this technology."

At first witnesses were not used in the system, but Kent wanted to include them.

A ministry spokesman said: "Kent already uses video technology for witnesses giving evidence both from police stations and a court."

And she revealed Kent wants to go yet another step, and said: "Warrant application discussions are underway, but not in use yet."

Policing and criminal justice minister Nick Herbert said: "We are making the criminal justice system more efficient to the local communities it serves.

"Virtual courts are playing a key part in this. We have seen already they can be used successfully in areas such as Kent and that they help us to work with local police and the courts to ensure speedy and effective justice."

And Det Insp Claire Nix added: "The use of the virtual court system in Kent has been a success. We have saved a huge amount of police time."

Time is saved by not physically transferring defendants or having police officers travel.

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News

RETAIL

Bluewater expansion plan could create 1,500 new jobs

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

BLUEWATER looks set to become the biggest shopping centre in the UK under ambitious plans which could see 1,500 new jobs created.

Property firm Lend Lease, which runs the Greenhithe shopping centre, has started discussions with a view to submitting an outline planning application later this year for an extension amounting to a fifth of the existing retail and catering space.

It will mean more shops and restaurants at the massive complex – which already spans 1.6 million sq ft – and up to 1,500 jobs, available to local residents through The Learning Shop, the centre's on-site training and recruitment facility.



SITE: Centre would be UK's biggest

If expansion plans are given the green light, Bluewater, which opened in 1999, will rival Westfield's two London shopping centres and Gateshead's Metro Centre as the biggest of its kind in the UK.

Dartford MP Gareth Johnson welcomed the possibility of hundreds of jobs.

"I'm confident that Lend Lease and Bluewater will work closely with the community to create something that will not only be commercially successful, but which will bring many more benefits to the Dartford and wider north Kent community," he said. "Not least of these will be a very significant number of jobs, training and investment in the local economy."

The extension will be at the West Village and form part of development at Bluewater which started last November, with the opening of entertainment dining area The Plaza and exhibition space Glow. In October this year, Lend Lease will complete the redevelopment of The Wintergarden family dining village.

The centre's general manager Robert Goodman said a key element of Bluewater's success was its ability to evolve.

He said: "It is also important we continue to work in partnership with the community. We will therefore be consulting with the community and stakeholders over the next few months."

Since opening 13 years ago, the centre's Learning Shop has created employment for more than 30,000 people, the majority from the Kent community. The consultation for the proposed extension has begun, and the full application will be submitted later this year.

Bluewater has been trading well despite the recession, with June sales up six per cent compared with the same month last year.



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News

TRANSPORT

'Read the road' and help cut the number of rural fatalities

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

WHILE the overall number of car crashes in Kent is dropping, nearly two-thirds of all fatal traffic accidents still happen on country roads.

Speed is a major factor on the smaller roads with lower visibility around sharp corners, and many hidden entrances.

Add to that large vehicles, pedestrians, cyclists and horses, and it's easy to understand how hazardous country driving can be.

In 2009 there were 61 road deaths in Kent, dropping to 55 in 2010, and 43 last year.

As a result of the worrying statistics on rural roads, Kent County Council has launched its annual Country Roads campaign to raise awareness of the need to 'read the road' – see the hazards and not take speed to the limit.

The human cost of each accident is immeasurable, but economically each death costs the community around £1.6 million according to figures from the Department for Transport.

KCC said speed limits are never an indicator of the safest speed because prevailing conditions are constantly changing, like wet road surface, parked vehicles, and walkers in the road.

Ultimately it is the responsibility of the driver to assess these factors and use the highway appropriately.

Cllr David Brazier, KCC's deputy cabinet member for environment, highways and waste, said:



SLOW LANE: Each death on roads costs £1.6m

"This campaign is aimed at raising awareness for drivers; even though a road sign may indicate the national speed limit, common sense must prevail.

"We want all drivers to think 'what if?', ie, what if there is a cyclist, horse rider or large vehicle coming toward you on the next bend? The conditions on country roads change all the time and it's often not safe to be travelling at the limit."

And Steve Horton, the council's road safety team leader, added: "Speed is a key factor in all crashes – if you crash it's because you couldn't stop in time.

"If you cannot stop, you're travelling too fast for the conditions. The faster you crash, the more damage you will do."

The website www.readtheroad.co.uk supports the campaign and allows visitors the chance to brush up on their road knowledge and win prizes.


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KENT **REMEMBERED**



‘Messiah’ behind last battle on English soil

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

KENT has a history of insurrection against the British Government with two of the most famous uprisings in the Middle Ages having their roots among the labourers and farmworkers who comprised so many of the county’s residents

In 1381 Wat Tyler – originally born in Essex, but a Kentish resident – led the Peasants’ Revolt, while 69 years later Jack Cade was at the head of a 5,000-strong mob demanding an end to the rule of Henry VI.

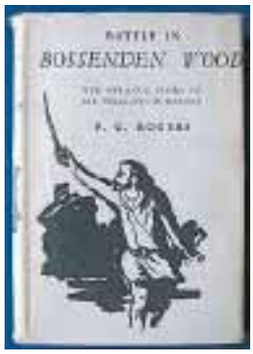
Both were unsuccessful and paid for their attempts with their lives – as did the man who led the last insurrection on British soil. The Battle of Bossenden Wood took place on May 31, 1838, near Hernhill.

The word “battle” rather dignifies the action – it was a short skirmish between a motley crowd of labourers from the area and a detachment of the 45 Regiment of Foot, sent from Canterbury.

The soldiers were tasked with arresting a man named John Nichols Thom, a malt maker from Truro with a history of mental illness.

He had arrived in Kent and styled himself Sir William Percy Honeywood Courtenay, Knight of Malta – and attempted to become elected as an MP. But he failed and instead proclaimed himself the messiah.

In early 1838, Courtenay began to preach in the area, promising to lead any who joined him to paradise.



BATTLE: A book and a plaque are among the many ways the uprising is remembered today

The peasantry responded well to these claims – as one farm labourer later explained, according to contemporary accounts: “He giv’ ’em all the sacrament, and after that he anoints himself and all of ’em with oil, and tells ’em that then no bullet nor nothing could harm ’em – and Sir William, he sat upon the ground with his back against a tree like, and there was all the women crying and praying to him, and they says to him, ‘Now do tell us if you be our blessed Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ’.

“And says he, ‘I am he’ – and then he shows ’em the mark of the nails in his hands which was made when he was put on the cross.”

But the local authorities were not so impressed and concern arose that he could pose a threat to the established order.

Fearing for his safety, Courtenay organised his followers into an armed band and began a rabble-rousing tour of Goodnestone, Faversham, Dargate, and Sittingbourne.

His popularity was not so great in other areas and his followers numbered around 40 – mostly armed with staves and cudgels.

Magistrates ordered his arrest, but a group given the job retreated after one of its number was shot and stabbed to death.

But on the last day of May troops surrounded Courtenay and his men.

Lt Henry Boswell Bennett approached the self-styled messiah and asked him to surrender, but his response was to shoot the officer dead.

The soldiers immediately opened fire and in minutes the uprising was crushed.

Courtenay himself was among the dead, along with eight more of his followers. Those captured were taken to the Red Lion inn, where they were held for a short time.

A further three later died of their injuries, while the survivors were tried and sentenced, mostly to transportation and hard labour.

A plaque in Hernehill Churchyard lists the names of some of the men killed in the battle, regarded by some historians as the last fought on English soil. But their individual graves are unmarked.

Meanwhile Courtenay’s name lives on – slightly. He has been the subject of a book, an opera, a manor house is named after him, as is a football team.





OPINION

Mental health being put at risk

Proposals to reorganise mental health services may have an adverse effect on the quality of care offered to vulnerable patients, says **Cllr Isaac Igwe**

THERE is currently a consultation which, when completed, will herald the reorganisation of inpatient mental health provision in Medway.

The proposals, if ratified, will bring changes regarding where patients can access inpatient care and the number of accessible beds available to them.

At the moment mental health care is provided in three wards (Emerald, Ruby and Sapphire) located in A Block of Medway Maritime Hospital, Gillingham. The intention of the changes is to close down the wards in A Block and relocate the services to Little Brook Hospital, Dartford, and reduce bed space from 49 to 30 – a whopping loss of 19 beds.

The main reason prompting the proposals is the physical structure of A Block, which does not meet the standard requirements of a 21st century inpatient mental health hospital. Patients are located in dormitories that are demarcated by curtains, offering little or no privacy, with communal toilets and bathrooms.

It is a standard requirement from the national guidelines that patients should have access to a toilet and shower in their rooms. Another structural issue makes it impossible for patients to have easy access to the gardens, unless escorted at regimented intervals on the discretion of nursing staff.

I believe other reasons for the proposed closure are to cut costs and maximise resources by locating the service in an area where there are a cluster of mental health services. The implication is a reduction in the number of nursing staff and psychiatric doctors.

This arrangement has an economic and operational implication for patients, carers, staff and the Trust. The community mental health teams will maintain their offices in Medway and travel to Dartford to attend Care Programme Approach meetings for their patients. The quality of support provided to patients in the community will most likely diminish due to travel.

Economically, the Trust will incur cost through additional travel claims by the Community Mental Health Teams.

On the other hand, patients who depend on Disability Living Allowance (DLA) as their main or only source of income may find it difficult to foot the extra cost to travel from Medway to Dartford. Some 42 per cent of people on DLA in Medway have mental health problems and any unbudgeted cost can adversely affect their mental state. Worse still, they may sabotage or avoid hospitalisation when they become unwell due to financial constraint.

This also applies to carers, including the added difficulty of travelling further away to visit loved ones, as it determines how often they are able to visit. Fewer visits could also upset patients and inhibit recovery.



“ The quality of support provided to patients will most likely diminish due to travel

It is evident that considerable numbers of Medway patients are treated in an out-of-area hospital within any given financial year. This means the Trust pays other hospitals to treat their patient. Given the proposed reduction in bed space, there could be an increased running cost, mitigating any saving.

Labour members of the task group charged with examining the impact of the proposed changes will not be able to support alternative services which could have an adverse impact on patients. If changes are made, the Labour group expects them to provide better services. This population group deserve the best we can give.

■ Cllr Isaac Igwe is a Medway Labour councillor and mental health nurse.

KOS COMMENT

Olympic inspiration a boost for community

IT’S fantastic to see almost 50,000 people in Kent have taken up sport in the run-up to the Olympics.

With Britain facing an obesity timebomb, it’s important to get people out playing on the county’s green spaces once again.

The benefits of exercise are clear, and if London 2012 triggers off a new health drive, then that will be some legacy.

Sport is much more than winners and losers though.

As we’ve seen, the Games have brought the country together in backing our finest Olympians.

An uptake of sport in Kent will surely benefit local communities just as much as the individual.

Police election matters

THE biggest shake-up to the police system in years is coming, and there are fears that no-one really cares.

Only 100 days remain until the first police and crime commissioner is elected and interest is low. With the PCC having a huge budget to play with, it’s time people started to take notice.

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Sunrise at Rainham Creek by Gary Foord

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Pull chain on costly mayor

I AM writing to express my outrage at the figures disclosed on how much has been spent on the Medway mayoralty.

While we struggle to make ends met, it is completely appalling that top Tories are spending thousands on parties.

£140,000 is a huge amount for the mayor. With my child about to start at a Medway school this year, I would much rather see this money being spent on local schools.

Perhaps Medway Council should really consider whether, in this period of economic downturn, the mayor is really worth the money.

Lauren Wright, Walderslade

You can get TV licence refund

A RECENT letter from your reader Anthony Sansum (Letters, August 5) raised concerns he will not be able to get a refund for a TV licence he no longer requires.

I apologise if Mr Sansum has been given incorrect information, but TV Licensing does not require customers to provide evidence when requesting a refund on their licence because of the digital switchover.

Mr Sansum can contact us on 0300 790 6071 to request a refund for any full unused months remaining on his licence.

Victoria Sykes, TV Licensing

Growth spurt the real issue

CLIMATE change is not the major threat facing humanity, (Letters, August 5) – what about overpopulation?

Overpopulation is not only helping to create all types of pollution, but is also speeding up the waste of finite resources and the destruction of areas as the rainforests because people are desperate to grow food.

The only reason increasing populations are tolerated is the people running the world, big business, find it suits their purpose and it's useful for governments who have to find a way of paying for countries' debts.

Phil Granger, West Malling

You're being anti-social, sir

WHY do motorists have such a dislike of pedestrians and cyclists?

Ian Taylor (Opinion, August 5) appears to spend his time attempting to speed around the county in a car. Perhaps he should get out and enjoy some fresh air walking or cycling around Kent, especially the country roads.

He would then perhaps have a more balanced view of all road users. Walking or cycling along a country road with traffic passing at 60mph is very scary. In a recent survey of children in a local primary school one of their main concerns was speeding traffic.

I would claim that motorists who exceed the speed limit is anti-social behaviour.

In a recent campaign to get a local zebra crossing replaced by a pelican/puffin crossing, a survey of the speed of traffic in a 30mph area travelling towards the zebra crossing showed that 85 per cent were travelling at 41.4mph with a maximum speed 89.5mph.

This crossing is used by children going to school with a lollipop lady who was concerned for her life, and was regularly abused by drivers.

Ian, please show more concern for other members of the public.

Roy Winnett, Chatham

Cycling's not a golden event

AS A cyclist of more than 70 years, how can I get excited about the odd gold medal or two and a yellow jersey, when cycling for the masses in this country is (and has been for years) so poorly provided for, and when so many cyclists are killed on our roads?

Ted Prangnell, member of RoadPeace, Kennington

Bag levy is the only solution

THE number of single-use bags handed out in the UK has gone up again over the past two years.

In 2011, we used eight billion plastic carrier bags; that equals 254 bags handed out per second. This is a tremendous waste of valuable resources that often results in litter which can be lethal to wildlife on land and at sea.

Sadly this is a very English problem. England is where the growth in bag use is happening and we are the only country in the UK that does not require shops to charge for bags and isn't actively considering introducing a charge.

When Wales introduced a 5p bag levy in 2011, single-use bag use fell by between 70-96 per cent. Ireland did it in 2002, and the number fell by 90 per cent.

Some shops are already doing this voluntarily, but the only way to make a real difference is for the Government to make sure England is not left behind, and introduce an English bag levy.

The money raised can even be spent on clearing litter, not making shops money as happens in Wales.

That is why I am supporting the Break the Bag Habit campaign run by the Campaign to Protect Rural England, Keep Britain Tidy, the Marine Conservation Society, and Surfers Against Sewage. It's simple to add your voice to this campaign by visiting their websites and writing to your MP.

Tessa Musgrave, Herne Bay

Working for autistic adults

I WANT to encourage our MP to support the National Autistic Society's (NAS) Undiscovered Workforce campaign to help adults with autism into employment.

The campaign is calling upon MPs across the UK to work together with local authority services, as well as local businesses and employment providers to improve job opportunities for people with autism in their constituencies.

For many, employment is a crucial factor in living a happy and independent life. However, NAS research indicates that only 15 per cent of adults with autism are in full-time employment, despite the fact 79 per cent of those claiming out-of-work benefits told us they want to work.

Research with university leavers has shown that 26 per cent of graduates with autism are unemployed, by far the highest rate of any disability group. One in 100 people living in Tunbridge Wells has autism and it is therefore vital more is done locally to support these adults into work.

I hope our MP will agree to work with other organisations in our constituency so adults with autism have access to the same employment opportunities as others.

Nathalie Dubois-Whitaker, Tunbridge Wells

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Interest is enough to tip employee over the edge

TONY HETHERINGTON
MONEY CLINIC



Q I WORK part-time, and since the Budget my pay has fallen below the starting point for tax. I thought I would be able to register as a non-taxpayer, so tax would not be deducted from my savings interest. However, my brother-in-law says that if my interest is enough to take me back above the tax threshold, then I should pay tax on it after all.

A YOUR brother-in-law is right. The basic rule is that banks and building societies deduct 20pc tax from your interest. You can have your interest paid in full only if your total income is below the tax threshold.

For most people, the current tax threshold is £8,105. (The figure is higher for over-65s on a modest income, but you have not said that you are entitled to this.)

If your pay plus interest together amount to less, then fill in form R85 and your bank or building society will pay your interest gross.

However, if your pay plus interest take you above the threshold, your interest must be taxed. But this is not the end of the story. Suppose your tax threshold is £8,105, and your pay is £8,000, while interest is £200.

You would have spare tax allowances of £105, so you could reclaim part of the tax by filling in claim form R40 and submitting it to HMRC.

Q I HAVE been approached by Carbon Commodities Trading Ltd, with the offer of buying into the carbon credits market. The company brochure says it is not regulated by the Financial Services Authority. What, if any, are the things to be wary of with this type of investment?

A CARBON Commodities Trading changed its name last September to Carbon Commodities Consulting. The fact that the old name still appears on its website and in its brochure says something about the business's efficiency, or lack of it.

That said, the company does not need to register with the FSA for the simple reason that carbon credits were not invented when the laws creating the watchdog body were passed. As a result, investors facing difficulties cannot call on the ombudsman for help, and there is no compensation scheme.

So there are a few things to be wary of.

But the biggest worry is that dozens of firms sell carbon credits as an investment, yet there is no proper way to turn those credits back into cash.

You would be buying a certificate saying the holder has voluntarily put money into something such as a forestry project, and is therefore allowed to produce a certain amount of carbon. Fine – but there is no stock exchange or similar body that trades in carbon certificates. Unless the company can produce convincing evidence that your certificate could be sold later, you might as well be throwing your money away.

Q I WROTE recently about a missing investment in a Credit Suisse unit trust. We have now been given what purports to be a copy of a letter from us, asking for the units to be sold. The dodgy looking signatures have been copied from something else.

A WHEN we published your letter, it looked as if this was just a case of old records that had been lost.

Now it is more serious. If you and your husband did not sign the letter asking for your investment to be encashed, then someone else did – and that is forgery.

If Credit Suisse has found the sale instruction, it should be able to say where the money was sent.

But really, you should consider informing the police.

Q MY partner and I are buying our house in joint names, and we share the mortgage repayments. What happens if one of us dies and relatives claim half the property? Neither of us could afford to pay half the value of the house.

A MOST title deeds are worded so that the survivor would automatically become sole owner of the property, so do get a solicitor to check your deeds. And you could, of course, each make a will naming the other as beneficiary.

Q HAVE you heard of government war stock? I have a certificate for £400 that has been in my family for many years. Is it worth anything?

A WAR stock was first issued by the government almost a century ago, to raise cash World War One. It still trades on the stock market, and a £400 certificate is worth about £380.

■ If you have a personal-finance question, write to Tony Hetherington, MyMoney24, Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE. We regret that neither Tony nor the MyMoney24 team can enter into personal correspondence.

'Marmite effect' of the packaged bank account

With more and more of us paying for packaged bank accounts, the regulator has announced new rules for providers. **ADAM AIKEN** reports

THE pros and cons of packaged bank accounts have been thrust back into the spotlight with the publication of new rules by the regulator.

A packaged account is a current account that charges a monthly fee in return for add-ons, such as insurance policies or discounts on other products. The fees can add up to more than £400 a year.

Financial providers like to highlight the total potential value of these add-ons, but critics point out that many of the benefits remain unused, and some prove to be totally unsuitable for certain people.

Under the new rules published by the Financial Services Authority (FSA), banks and building societies will be obliged to check whether customers are eligible to claim on insurance cover before selling them packaged accounts.

The FSA – which said that 20pc of people now have packaged accounts – also said that from the end of March next year, financial providers will need to provide an annual eligibility statement for each customer.

"These products are often referred to as 'upgraded accounts', but if you end up paying for an element you can't claim on, it's money down the drain," said Sheila Nicoll, the FSA's director of policy.

"We are closely monitoring the promotion of packaged bank accounts, and the new rules will make sure customers know what they're buying and that they can rely on the product or have the limitations explained before buying."

The FSA said it was looking at further measures, including the possibility of customers being sent eligibility statements as separate mailings. There are concerns eligibility statements alongside a regular bank statement could be overlooked by consumers.

Kevin Mountford, head of banking at Moneysupermarket.com, said: "The announcement by the FSA confirms proposals to ensure customers are eligible for insurance cover offered as part of a packaged bank account.

"It's also a positive move to see the requirement of annual eligibility statements as this should help remind people to check their benefits are suitable for their needs.

"It is encouraging the FSA will continue to look into improving transparency in the packaged account market for banking customers, helping them to shop around."

EXTRAS ON NOTICE

Cashback, satisfaction guarantee, rewards website, replacement lock and key, introductory offer to account holders, card loss assistance, mobile phone insurance, exclusive offers with this account, rewards website exclusive to account holders, tax services, personal concierge, legal services, identity theft help, preferential terms in restaurants, adviser offering financial services, preferential terms for buildings insurance, death cover, loyalty bonus to account holders, account opening incentive, adviser offering non-financial services, domestic emergency cover, card protection insurance, preferential terms for contents insurance, gadgets or accessory insurance, preferential terms on loans, preferential terms on share dealing service, vehicle breakdown cover, preferential deals on driving lessons, medical insurance, extended warranties, personal travel adviser, European insurance, identity theft insurance, price promise scheme, preferential terms at selected hotels, worldwide insurance, preferential terms for currency, travellers cheques or other travel money.

Source: Moneyfacts.co.uk

Michael Ossei, an analyst at Uswitch.com, said: "Packaged bank accounts are the Marmite of the banking industry – people either love them or hate them. But with almost 10 million consumers using them, they seem to be here to stay.

"Certainly, for some people, they can offer good value, offering a number of benefits. Some consumers are also attracted by the convenience factor. However, many see fee-paying accounts as a waste of money.

"The problem is that many of those who are paying a fee are not using the benefits – just one-in-three packaged account holders use the benefits regularly.

"With annual fees of up to £420, it's important that consumers work out if packaged accounts are right for them. And with so many accounts out there to choose from, consumers need to do their homework and shop around for what suits them best before signing on the dotted line."

Research by Moneyfacts.co.uk has found that of 19 providers offering packaged accounts, there are more than 38 extras available, ranging from death cover to discounts on loans to tax services (see panel).

"The number and the depth of the benefits vary greatly between accounts," said Moneyfacts spokesman Sylvia Waycot.

"It is easy to see what you are getting with some benefits, but others are more difficult.

"Discounted bank products or discounts at certain shops/restaurants could well be beaten by shopping around and you need to ask yourself would you buy from that store anyway. Even those benefits that offer true appeal should be considered carefully. Customers can find the full documentation and policy details literally run to 100 pages, many with smallprint."

Moneyfacts said the notes that accompanied the Royal Bank of Scotland packaged account were 100 pages long, while Halifax's were close behind at 90 pages.

"The policies may make unpleasant reading as you find you are unsuitable for the insurance or the excesses are prohibitive," said Ms Waycot.

"Travel insurance needs particular attention as cover can cease at varying ages, even breakdown cover needs to be checked as older cars can be excluded.

"Mobile phone cover sounds simple, except it could cover theft but not loss, while damage cover may include accidental but not malicious. The number of permitted claims may vary with the value of the phone, and the level of cover for unauthorised calls needs to be considered.

"Trying to appeal to as much of the market as possible has resulted in increased chances of consumers not using all the benefits offered."

Mr Ossei, at Uswitch, said the new FSA rules would benefit not only consumers. "They will also protect the banks," he said. "With so much scrutiny over the mis-selling of financial products, these rules will now help the banks to ensure that they are promoting packaged accounts in a consumer-friendly and appropriate way."

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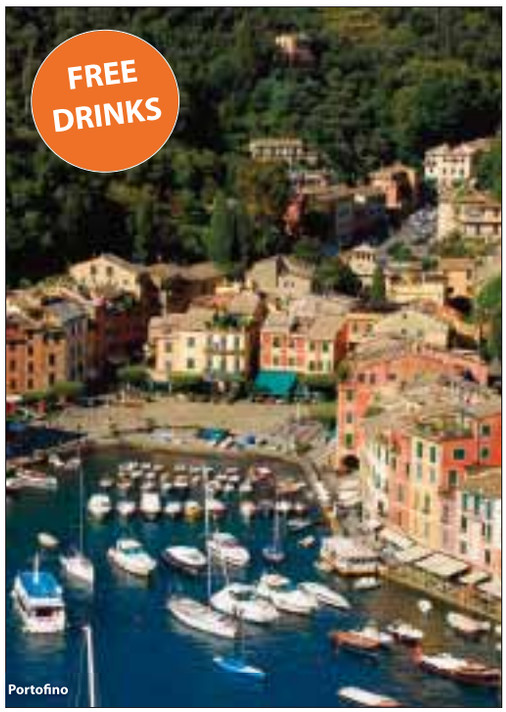
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Portofino

Included: Escorted throughout • Champagne Check-in at London St Pancras • Return rail travel from St Pancras (*from Ebbsfleet on request) - afternoon departure • 1 night hotel B&B in Paris or Lille outbound • 6 nights in Diano Marina, Italy - half board plus free drinks 6pm to 11pm every night • All excursions • All transfers abroad

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A Lemon Festival display.5

Included: Escorted throughout • Champagne check-in at London St Pancras • Return rail travel from St Pancras (*from Ebbsfleet on request) - afternoon departure • Overnight hotel B&B in Paris outbound • 6 nights half board in Diano Marina, including free drinks 6pm to 11pm every night • All excursions • All transfers abroad

Rail Option: Luggage handling - £29pp



Grease & Saturday Night Fever Christmas Party

For over 40s only

Pontin's Pakefield Holiday Village, Suffolk Coast

Self drive - 3 nights, half board PLUS 99p Bar

Quote XP11-KOS

£99pp

2 November, 2012

Join us for a fun-packed Christmas Party - for over 40s only - at Pontin's Pakefield Holiday Village. Enjoy great variety entertainment including a Grease tribute act & movie screening, a 99p Bar every night, ground-floor chalet accommodation, an indoor pool, Pakefield's peaceful seafront location near Lowestoft and much more.

INCLUDED:

• 99p Bar from 6pm to 9pm every night • Variety Entertainment every night featuring Grease tribute act & movie screening • 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts • 3 nights en-suite chalet with TV & tea/coffee-making facilities - upgrades available

Good value, good service

Value for money, good service throughout our stay. Staff all very helpful and friendly – Mr Scripps of Kent

Very good value – Mr & Mrs Thurbon of Kent

GN People very friendly and helpful – Mrs Norman of Sidcup

What Readers said about our Exclusive Party Breaks at Pontin's Pakefield



Dubrovnik Semi All Inclusive

By Air from Gatwick

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In a stunning Mediterranean garden setting, the Valamar Club sits on the shores of the Adriatic just a few minutes from the magic of Dubrovnik's old quarter. The hotel's incredible range of facilities and activities include aerobics, table tennis and swimming plus diving, sailing and water-skiing from the shores of Copacabana beach.

Date	Airport	Price pp
Oct 2	Gatwick	£539
Oct 6	Gatwick	£539
Oct 9	Gatwick	£479
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Flights are on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

Gatwick to Dubrovnik outbound

Tues: depart 14.25 arrive 18.05
Sat: depart 12.20 arrive 16.10

Dubrovnik to Gatwick return

Tues: depart 18.50 arrive 20.25
Sat: depart 17.10 arrive 19.00

Subject to confirmation by Monarch Airlines

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Escorted Holiday by Rail

6 days, half board

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6 September, 2012

This super holiday takes in one of the world's finest coast-to-coast railway journeys - Inverness to the Kyle of Lochalsh. Enjoy spectacular views from the train all the way. Passing Loch Carron, the railway clings to the rocky shoreline towards the Cuillin Hills and the Isle of Skye before reaching journey's end - the Kyle of Lochalsh. Our holiday starts at London Kings Cross where we join the train to Inverness. Also included is a cruise on Loch Ness.

INCLUDED:

• Escorted throughout
• Return rail travel from London Kings Cross to Inverness
• 5 nights in the 3-star Royal Highland Hotel, Inverness with 5 breakfast & 5 dinners
• Rail excursion to the Kyle of Lochalsh
• Loch Ness cruise

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If you have a business story or any news you think we should be covering in this section, reporter **Nick Ames** would like to hear from you.
You can phone him on **01303 817181**, or alternatively email **nick.ames@archant.co.uk**.

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Super summer fails us but winter isn't here just yet as exports prove

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

EXPECTATIONS of a boom in exports caused by Britain's high profile following the Diamond Jubilee and Olympic Games have hit a wall in the form of the Eurozone crisis and concerns over currency fluctuations.

The fifth DHL/BCC Trade Confidence Index, a measure of the UK's exporting health, reveals that expectations for the so-called super summer of 2012 have been overshadowed by economic problems on the Continent.

The report, which draws on a survey of more than a thousand exporters and an analysis of export documentation, found that 40 per cent of firms stated that exchange rates were a concern, showing the Eurozone crisis's impact in terms of UK competitiveness and the buoyancy of one of its biggest markets.

A net balance of just 21 per cent of firms felt profitability would increase in the next 12 months, down from 30 per cent the previous quarter, with falling profitability expectations across all firm sizes. These results were in spite of a summer of celebrations and high hopes for the economic impact on exporters.

And they are in stark contrast to research conducted in 2010 by DHL, which found 56 per cent of businesses anticipated that the focus on London over this period would create greater global demand for British goods.

John Longworth, director general of the British Chambers of Commerce, said: "Business concerns about the Eurozone have increased in the last quarter, and it's no wonder. In the last few months we have seen two general elections in Greece, a bailout of Spanish lender Bankia and sovereign borrowing costs creeping up to dangerously high levels yet again."



EXPORTS: Jo James finds a bright side

However, some companies in the last few weeks have reported an increase in export orders for autumn, while others have made moves to reach out further into the global marketplace by targeting areas such as the US, South America, the Indian subcontinent and Asia.

Jo James, chief executive of Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce, said: "The adverse effect of the Eurozone crisis on exporters is unfortunate, to say the least, at a time when British exporters are struggling valiantly to overcome our own economic problems.

"Our exporters have shown amazing resilience in maintaining performance against all the odds, and added complications in one of our biggest markets is heaping problems upon problems. It is understandable that under the circumstances their confidence is lessened.

"On the up side, exports are increasing, more companies are entering the export market and many are looking beyond Europe. We should congratulate those companies concerned as they are working hard to maintain whatever economic activity they can to mitigate the recessionary situation. Exporting remains a primary means of contributing to economic recovery, but it is paramount that the relevant authorities in Britain and Europe work tirelessly to try to improve the overall situation."

Phil Couchman, chief executive of DHL Express UK and Ireland, said: "SMEs' concerns around exchange rates and profitability highlight that there is still more to be done in terms of support for businesses venturing into overseas markets.

"But recent export figures are strong and there is reason to believe that the 'super summer' – a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that will put British businesses firmly in the spotlight – could present a fantastic opportunity to make inroads internationally. To sustain momentum, businesses large and small should start thinking now about how best to serve this international audience once the events are over by initiating an export programme for their goods and services to reach that target market.

"The worries highlighted in the report show businesses should seek advice from professionals with a local presence who can provide specialist insight."

And Longworth remained upbeat about the coming months.

"There is a silver lining," he said. "Businesses have seen a rise in export orders in the last quarter, despite concerns about the Eurozone. While the EU is our main trading partner, UK firms are looking to trade in new markets."

According to the latest figures from the Office for National Statistics, more than half of British exports in the three months to May went to countries outside the EU, an increase of 13 per cent on the same quarter last year.

"These results are encouraging, but we need to find ways to make our businesses think global and provide them with the support they need to break into new markets. Businesses are still concerned with being able to access the appropriate finance to help them break into new markets.

"Export growth is vital, not only to help boost the UK economy, but to show the world Britain remains a major global competitor."

Research highlights the personal cost of running a small businesses

SMALL-BUSINESS-OWNERS are working long hours, through ill-health and with few or no holidays, according to new research from Clydesdale Bank.

According to the bank's estimates, owners across London and the South East contribute to 64 million extra days each year UK-wide to keep their businesses going.

Clydesdale Bank's new research indicates that more than 2.5 million (57 per cent) of small-business-owners UK-wide haven't had a single day off sick in the last three years.

Compared with the average worker, the research suggests small-business-owners between them have worked 46 million extra days since 2009 (15.3m per year) compared with average UK workers, who take six sick days a year.



"Small-business-owners in London and the South East have invested their own money and passion in their company, so they will fight through the coughs and colds that might keep others under the duvet," said Will Lindsay, regional director south at Clydesdale Bank. "When the bottom line is that the success of your business rests on you, there is a massive motivation to keep going when a regular employee might not."

And those running the region's small businesses aren't working shorter hours, either. The bank calculates that about a million owners UK-wide are working more than 45 hours per week, with almost two-thirds of those putting in more than 50 hours, far more than the UK average working week of 39.1 hours. Together, they could be doing more than 1.3 million extra days a year.

"During a tough period for the economy, where the immediate future has been unclear, taking on or even just keeping staff has been difficult for small businesses," said Lindsay. "Owners, who often don't draw much of a salary or pay themselves overtime, are working extended hours to ensure their customers are looked after and their businesses survive."

The survey found 13 per cent of respondents in the region had taken no holidays in the last year, while more than a third (39 per cent) took fewer than 15 days.

Clydesdale's research indicates that almost all (87 per cent) of small-business-owners across London and the South East take fewer days off than the statutory entitlement of 28 days (including bank holidays); across the country, the UK small-business sector foregoes almost 49 million days off a year, the bank estimates.

Lindsay said: "With times being tough, you can understand if small-business-owners don't want to close for holidays or spend money on overseas trips, but it is worrying that they don't take time for themselves.

"Being healthy and on top of your game is an important part of success. Investing time in your physical and mental well-being can be every bit as valuable as cash is."

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The sun still shines on solar

Andy Pyke tells why there's no better time to take the green option



GO FOR IT: Andy Pyke recommends solar panels

THE proliferation of solar panels on buildings and open sites across our region over the last couple of years has been quite an eye-opener and has caused many of us to wonder if we are, perhaps, missing a trick somehow.

The Government's initial support for renewable energy through the Feed in Tariff (FIT) scheme turned solar panels into a solid investment vehicle that offered guaranteed returns of more than 10 per cent per annum and kick-started a vibrant renewable-energy sector in the UK.

Over a short period of time, the price of solar panels dropped sharply and the Government faced criticism that its incentives were too generous as investors looking for a good return started to pour money into putting free solar panels onto any south-facing roof and keeping the FIT payments for themselves.

In November 2011, the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) reacted by cutting the FIT tariff in half, a move that caused outcry in the solar industry, with many fearing the death knell had sounded and the whole industry was doomed.

As it turned out, DECC had pretty much got it right and within a few weeks solar PV systems were being advertised at almost half their previous cost. Since then there have been further cuts to the FIT, with the latest coming at the end of July.

So the big question is: does solar PV still make any sense?

Bizarrely, the answer is that a solar PV system fitted in August or September will cost you so much less than it would have even two months ago, that the return on investment is actually now at its all-time high. In other words, there has never been a better time to invest in solar PV, despite the cuts and changes to the FIT scheme.

A typical 50kwp commercial installation these days costs about £65,000. In its first year alone, it is going to bring a combined income and saving of more than £9,600, meaning it will pay for itself outright in less than seven years.

Businesses with high electricity bills are going to get the maximum benefit out of a system like this and will be protecting themselves from rising energy prices.

As well as the financial benefits, by installing a solar system, businesses are able to demonstrate their commitment to reducing their carbon output – an increasingly important corporate statement.

With returns at an all-time high, there's never been a better time for businesses to go green.

GROWTH

Global outlook reaps harvest

AN accountancy firm is celebrating a significant boost in income from international sources.



Creaseys, the Tunbridge Wells accountancy firm, which was recently named as Best Single Office Tax Practice in the UK, attributes the rise to its membership of PrimeGlobal, an association of international accounting firms.

Richard Holme, pictured, international tax partner with Creaseys, believes the association's global presence is enhancing the Creaseys reputation.

"Our clients have growing global requirements and our membership of PrimeGlobal has never been so important," he said.

"Creaseys has gone from strength to strength in the past couple of years and our membership has bolstered our ability to provide expertise at a global level for both our international clients and the many businesses in our region that are opening overseas operations.

"We are recognised as experts in supporting international corporates with their UK and European subsidiaries and are helping a number of other PrimeGlobal members to complete work on behalf of their clients in the UK.

"This is all part of our plan to provide a complete service to forward-thinking owner-managed businesses."

Raise a glass to these award-winning beers

BEERS brewed by Shepherd Neame have won a gold medal, a silver medal and a host of bronze medals in the Olympics of beer.

In the tasting category of the International Beer Challenge, Late Red Autumn Hop Ale won gold and Canterbury Jack silver, while another four beers brewed by Shepherd Neame, 1698 Bottle Conditioned Ale, Spitfire Premium Kentish Ale, Generation Ale and Asda Extra Special Whitechapel Porter, won bronze.

Late Red Autumn Hop Ale, available all year round, is brewed using Kentish hops, barley and mineral water to create a 4.5 per cent ale. Canterbury Jack is brewed with pale and crystal malts and hopped with English Cascade and East Kent Goldings grown within a few miles of the brewery.

Head brewer Richard Frost said: "To win six taste-test medals is a tribute to the expertise and experience of all the brewers at Faversham who are dedicated to brewing flavoursome ales of the highest quality and of a truly distinct, Kentish appeal."

Shepherd Neame also won three bronze medals in the design and packaging category, for Asahi Super Dry, 1698 Bottle Conditioned Ale and Generation Ale, hand-wrapped in watermarked tissue paper and encased in a clasped wooden box.



ALL IN GOOD TASTE: The Shepherd Neame brewing team with head brewer Richard Frost, centre

Beers from 26 countries around the globe were entered into this year's International Beer Challenge, which, for the past 16 years, has rewarded and promoted excellence in brewing across the range of beer styles.

The 30 gold medallists will now be judged to decide which is 'best in class', an award to be announced at a presentation at Dartmouth House, London, on Monday, September 10.

Calling all community charities: would you like some help?

THE Joiners Shop in Chatham is looking for a local charity to support for the next 12 months.

This backing will include active involvement from the centre to help raise money and organise fund-raising events.

Basepoint Business Centres, which specialises in the development and operation of flexible business, innovation and enterprise centres, is owned by The ACT Foundation, a leading UK grant-making charity, dedicated to improving the quality of life of those in need.

As such, each centre is dedicated to fund-raising for a selected charity and The ACT Foundation match-funds any money raised by the chosen charity, up to the value of £10,000 per centre.

John Luchford, centre manager at Basepoint Chatham, said: "Joining forces with The Joiners Shop is a fantastic opportunity for a charity. We are passionate about finding innovative and fun ways to raise money and are particularly keen on working with charities dealing with physical and mental disabilities."

Charities that are interested should contact John Luchford or Maureen Tong-Ralphs by emailing Chatham@basepoint.co.uk or phoning 01634 816000.



Training, courses and careers

College branches out to offer its own lessons driving

COLLEGE students in Medway will soon have the chance to learn how to drive alongside their normal courses.

MidKent College is launching its own driving school offering student lessons for £17 in its own fleet of Citroens.

The college said students who enrol for a September start should be able to book the driving lessons.

Programme administrator Matt Brown said: "Sky-high insurance costs coupled with the crippling price of fuel mean it has never been more expensive for learner drivers to get behind the wheel.

"MidKent College Driving School will play its part in reducing this financial burden by offering cheap yet high quality instruction to our students and other customers throughout the county.

"We also hope to aid the continued reduction in deaths and serious injuries on our roads by promoting the importance of driver safety to our learners and also through links with local schools."

And he added: "We want people to continue to enjoy coming to college, which is why it is such a high priority to find new ways to improve the student experience.

"We hope learner drivers across the county take advantage of MidKent College Driving School by signing up for lessons and thereby gaining the freedom that will serve them well for the rest of their lives."

He said other colleges hoping to set up their own driving school are also invited to get in touch.

It is now calling on established instructors to join them to help run the scheme.

Students prove they really are a first class bunch

NINE Bromley College students have received first-class honours after graduating from the biomedical science undergraduate degree programme.

The students – Karl Baird, Samira Gharbieh, Siavash Beikoghli Kalkhoran, Sian Russell, Cheryl Griffiths, Connor Scott, Faye Brown, Jacqui Long and Susie Ruffles – took part in thegraduation ceremon at Rochester Cathedral alongside 300 graduates from the University of Greenwich.

The students were able to work towards their degrees on a full-time or part-time basis, first studying at Bromley College and then completing their degrees at the University of Greenwich's Medway Maritime campus.

Student Connor Scott said: "The tutors really helped me and their teaching methods made students excel. It was a great experience. I wish to use my degree to get into medical school and become a doctor."

Sheila Lake, curriculum manager for science and maths, and animal care, said: "We are so proud of all of our students' achievements and of how well our higher education team has prepared them for their next steps.

"In the case of these nine wonderful first-class honours graduates, we couldn't be happier for them. Their ambition and determination have paid off in a big way."

'He's a shining example of how worthwhile an apprentice can be to us'

A STROOD apprentice has scooped one of three top national awards.

He has proved to be one of the country's most promising apprentices after taking the prize thanks to backing from Medway Council.

Callum Barnes was one of three bright young trainees taking honours at the National Construction College.

It awards hard work and determination put in by apprentices across the nation.

The 18-year-old is a year into his apprenticeship as a floor layer at Strood firm Oxden Floors, which is the latest in a long line of businesses to benefit from the local council's apprenticeship scheme, which has helped with the cost of his apprenticeship.

What is your business doing to help Keep Kent Working? Do you send employees on training courses to aid their personal development or run apprenticeship schemes? If you have a good news story email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk or call us on 01303 817136.

The GAPS scheme, which is part funded by the council and European Union, offers businesses £2,000 to help firms with the wage or training costs of an apprentice.

The council has already committed more than £200,000 to the scheme, which has been running almost a year, and to date, has helped more than 60 businesses take on 90 apprentices.

Lee Fox, managing director at Oxden has been at the company for 12 years. He said: "As a business we're keen to do more in terms of training and taking on young people and this gave us the chance to take somebody on through an approved scheme where they could gain a qualification.

"Although we were keen to take on an apprentice, the funding was certainly an added incentive and for many businesses that help with training or wage costs is a big help."

Callum spends half of his time based at college and the rest on site with the team learning hands-on.

He said: "I'm really enjoying the apprenticeship. It's a great way of learning, with a good company behind you and training at college too.

"I've always been into the construction industry and doing the apprenticeship means I can put the skills I learn at college to practice straight away and learn hands-on with experienced people."

His boss added: "Apprentices can bring with them a fresh, youthful energy, although to be honest I think Callum's success in the short space of time he's been here says it all and is a shining example of exactly how worthwhile they can be."

For details on the GAPs scheme, email gaps@medway.gov.uk or phone 01634 334348.



THE START OF GREATS THING: Oxden boss Lee Fox and apprentice Callum Barnes

Learn about sustainable construction

STUDENTS interested in 'green architecture' can join SusCon this year for a series of course on sustainable construction.

It is part of North West Kent College, and the courses use a new training and research centre at The Bridge, Dartford.

The courses include study of electronic security and emergency systems, plus insulation techniques and of naturally enough, sustainable construction.

An open day is organised for August 15 between 2-5pm.

The building itself has been rated as outstanding in a Design Stage BREEAM Education Assessment.

It also has an 'A' rated Energy Performance Certificate and the lifetime carbon footprint has been reduced. Unavoidable carbon emissions have been compensated for by protecting 70 acres of Amazon rainforest.

Phillip Mathews, general manager at SusCon said: "We are proud to be one of the first in south east London and Kent to offer courses in sustainability.

"The courses provide essential training to fill a skills gap, which is in line with Government plans for the Green Deal and their pledge to reduce carbon emissions. This will provide employment opportunities to those qualified within sustainable construction."



GREEN DREAM: North West Kent College

Schools & education

Big names from textiles industry share top tips with design students

THE biggest names in textiles shared their expert knowledge during a specialist seminar for an EU venture led by the University for the Creative Arts (UCA).

The Crysalis Cross-Border Professionals Programme, which took place over three days at UCA Rochester, boasted presentations from industry experts such as the 'patron saint of print' Mark Eley of Eley Kishimoto, designers Agi & Sam, fashion blogger Amelia Gregory, and the Design Trust.

Part-funded through the European Regional Development Fund, the Crysalis Project is a cross-Channel collaboration exploring and driving innovation in the textile industry at centres in Belgium, France and the UCA Rochester.

The event was designed to encourage textiles graduates, start-ups, and established businesses from the Crysalis Project's three regions who wish to learn about innovative digital textile design and production techniques from some of the UK's top fashion and textile professionals.

Delegates got hands-on with the latest technology during workshops hosted by international textiles designer and UCA course leader, Neil Bottle, which utilised UCA Rochester's Gerber Suite and digital printer.

They experimented with inks and print fusing to produce print samples of their own to take home.

Troubled teen graduates after finally putting acting up to good use



GOOD CHARACTER: Graduate Dritan Kastrati

A SELF-confessed "angry young man" tossed into Kent life from Albania has found his footing thanks to the dedicated help of his teachers.

The Albanian-born former student at Ramsgate's Marlowe Academy didn't know a word of English when he arrived aged 14, and wasn't about to let anyone tell him anything.

But the teaching staff wouldn't let him waste his schooling, and now he has graduated with honours from the University of Kent.

Staff say this is another example of a student whose outlook on life has been transformed by the innovative teaching and attentive care offered to students at The Marlowe Academy.

Dritan Kastrati, now 21, joined the Ramsgate School, The Marlowe Academy's predecessor, in 2003.

In his own words, he was "angry young man with a chip on his shoulder".

Under the wing of the late Michael Tulloch, a drama teacher at the schoo who was recognised as one of the country's leading experts on emotional intelligence, Dritan flourished.

He was taught how to channel his anger through the medium of drama. This helped transform Dritan's outlook on life, and he developed his performing skills.

Come sixth form at the Marlowe Academy he developed a passion for performing, taking theatre studies at A-level and level 3 Performing Arts. Experience came at local drama productions and he appeared in a Margate film called Exodus.

He became a role model for others at the academy and achieved a distinction in performing arts and a Grade B in theatre studies A2.

He took drama and theatre at university graduating with a 2:1 (Hons) and has appeared in several London productions.

Christine scoops vice-chancellor's award for organic chemistry PhD

A FRENCH student has taken an inaugural academic prize for research at the University of Greenwich, Medway.

Dr Christine Baltus has won the first Vice-Chancellor's PhD Prize for best postgraduate research.

The student from the School of Science examined organic chemistry focusing on synthesising 'drug-like' molecules for use in medicinal chemistry, herbicides, fungicides, liquid crystals, and even electric wires.

Her PhD was written in collaboration with pharmaceutical manufacturer, Novartis UK. Christine received her prize at the University of Greenwich's awards ceremony held in Rochester Cathedral.

Christine, from Seine et Marne, northern France, said: "I really enjoyed my research. The support and encouragement I received from my supervisors was superb."

And Professor Alan Reed, Director of Postgraduate Research at the university, added: "We are very pleased that the vice-chancellor has created this new annual prize to recognise the excellence demonstrated by students working towards the university's highest academic award.

"Christine's examiners said that her work was of the best quality.

"She is a worthy winner of the inaugural prize, and we all wish her well in her future career."

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Healthcare Assistant
to join our team for 26 hours per week.

Senior Practice Nurse
(37 hours)-Respiratory experience desirable.

We are a large (EMIS) GP training practice with six GPs, five Practice Nurses and two HCAs.

Please contact Sarah Crouch, Practice Manager 01892 833331 for more details.

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For an application pack please contact: email: pat.slater@regentgroup.co.uk or Louise on 01322 626240.

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MARKETING ASSISTANT
~
Erith company Versapak International is recruiting a Marketing Assistant.

Experience within a marketing department, preferably in a marcomms or product management role, is desirable but not essential. If you have a good eye for detail and a positive "can do" attitude then we would like to hear from you.

The role would suit somebody looking for part-time hours although full-time applications would be considered. Salary is dependent on skills and experience.

To apply please email
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PUBLIC/ COMMUNITY APPOINT

The Spencer Private Hospital is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEQM Hospital site. We also have a 4 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford. The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

Senior Staff Nurse Pre-Assessment & Senior Staff Nurse Outpatients

(Primarily Margate but willing to travel to other sites)
Full-time positions
Qualifications
Registered Nurse 1st Level
Minimum 2 years post registration/equivalent experience
Evidence of continual professional development
Teaching and Assessing Course

Staff Nurses (Margate)

Full-time position
Qualifications
Registered Nurse 1st Level
Evidence of continual professional development

Staff Nurses (Ashford)

Full-time position
Qualifications
Registered Nurse 1st Level
Evidence of continual professional development

To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit please contact
Mary Guarnieri (Matron) or
Vicky Smith (Clinical Effectiveness Co-ordinator)
01843 234555 ext 63453

Closing date for all applications Friday 24 August

For job description and application form please contact:

Jo Edwards
East Kent Medical Services Ltd
Spencer Private Hospital
Ramsgate Road
Margate
Kent CT9 4BG
Telephone: 01843 234556 Fax: 01843 296333
E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com

The Spencer Private Hospital is an equal opportunity employer
These positions are subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check

The Spencer Private Hospital is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEQM Hospital site. We also have a 4 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford. The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

OUTPATIENT MANAGER (Margate)

FULL TIME

Closing date for applications Friday 24 August

We are looking for an enthusiastic, highly motivated individual to manage and develop our outpatient services.

Educated to degree level and possessing qualifications in endoscopy, you will have good leadership and management skills and remain clinically hands-on. As well as excellent clinical skills you will be expected to identify and implement new areas for growth of the business.

To discuss this opportunity please contact:

Mary Guarnieri (Matron) or Vicky Smith (Clinical Effectiveness Co-ordinator)
01843 234555 ext 63453

For job description and application form please contact:

Jo Edwards
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Spencer Private Hospital
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Margate
Kent CT9 4BG
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The Spencer Private Hospital is an equal opportunity employer
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Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:.

Lecturer in Hair ***Ref: P0354***

Salary: £26,336 to £30,118 per annum (dependent on qualifications and experience)
37 hours per week. Medway Campus

We are looking to recruit a passionate individual to teach assess and contribute to the development of Hair Design programmes on Levels 1 to 3, in a very busy department with high achievement rates. The applicant must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and should hold or be willing to work towards a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

The successful candidates must be excellent teachers who share our passion for success and who take a proactive approach in promoting and developing the courses within the Faculty.

Closing Date: 12 noon on 23 August 2012

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College

The Spencer Private Hospital is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEQM Hospital site. We also have a 4 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford. The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

Medical Secretary - Full time (Margate)

Qualifications
Maths and English (GCSE or Equivalent)
Two years experience working in a medical environment
Audio Typing experience essential
(Previous applicants need not apply)

To discuss this opportunity or to arrange an informal visit please contact:
Paul Parish or Julie Pain 01843 234555 x 63316

Closing date for applications Friday 17th August 2012

For job description and application form please contact:

Jo Edwards
East Kent Medical Services Ltd
Spencer Private Hospital
Ramsgate Road, Margate
Kent CT9 4BG
Telephone: 01843 234556
Fax: 01843 296333
E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com

The Spencer Private Hospital is an equal opportunity employer
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Salary £15725 per annum (pro rata)
Closing date: Midday 28th Aug
Interviews: w/c 3rd Sept

An application form & further details can be located on the school's website www.doyrms.com , emailing reception@doyrms.com or 01304 245023. CV's will not be accepted.

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Candidates must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post including checks with past employers and an Enhanced Disclosure via the Criminal Records Bureau.

Swale Academies Trust

Westlands School

Westlands Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1PF

PART TIME CATERING ASSISTANT

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Food preparation/cooking experience and a basic food hygiene certificate preferred, but if you have a positive attitude, good practical skills and are willing to work, we will teach you.

Recruitment packs are available from Westlands School or online (www.westlands.org.uk). Please note, we cannot accept CVs without an application form. Closing date: Friday 23 August 2012

Swale Academies Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced CRB check.

Contact Details
Tel: 01795 477475 Fax: 01795 479461
Email swa@westlands.kent.sch.uk
Trust Principal: Mr J Whitcombe MA
Swale Academies Trust Company No 7344732
Registered Office: Ashdown House, Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1JS

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Planning applications

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL

Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995
Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990
Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:

CA//12/01168/FUL: 1 Ethelbert Road, Canterbury, CT1 3ND Erection of conservatory to side of dwelling. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Khandzhyan** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01179/ADV: The Green, The Street, Ickham, CT3 1QT Erection of village sign. **Applicant: Ickham and Well Parish Council** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
CA//12/01187/FUL: Brooklands, 45 Fordwich Road, Fordwich, CT2 OBS Change of use from commercial offices (Use Class B1) to a residential dwelling with associated internal and external alterations including provision of balconies. **Applicant: Mr Thorgersen** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01189/LB: Brooklands, 45 Fordwich Road, Fordwich, CT2 OBS Internal and external alterations including provision of balconies. **Applicant: Mr Thorgersen** Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA//12/01190/FUL: Land adjacent to 1 Brooklands Close, Fordwich, CT2 0BT Erection of garage. **Applicant: Mr Thorgersen** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01214/FUL: The Pines, School Lane, Ickham, CT3 1QU Single-storey side and rear extension. **Applicant: Mr Pettet** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01262/LB: Vine House, 44 Orchard Street, Canterbury, CT2 8AP Replacement of kitchen window with French doors and replacement of kitchen door with window and walling. **Applicant: Mrs C Almond** Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA//12/01322/FUL: 5 St Lawrence Road, Canterbury, CT1 3EY Erection of outbuilding in rear garden. **Applicant: Mr Ruane** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01335/VAR: Ford Old Pumping Station, Ford Hill, Maypole, Hoath, CT3 4LS Variation of condition 02 of conservation area consent CA/12/00668/CAC relating to the approved drawings and design. **Applicant: South East Water** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01348/LB: Angel Court, Butchery Lane, Canterbury, CT1 2JR Re-surfacing of courtyard. **Applicant: Shepherd Neame** Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA//12/01355/FUL: 43 Roper Road, Canterbury, CT2 7EQ Single-storey rear extension and insertion of dormer in rear roof slope. **Applicant: Mr S Stephens** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01357/FUL: 4 Sea Street, Whitstable, CT5 1AN Retention of replacement timber windows **Applicant: Mr G Lister** Reason: Conservation area.

Any representations should be sent in writing to the Head of Planning and Regeneration, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW or e-mailed to **development.management@canterbury.gov.uk** to arrive on or before **Monday 3 September 2012.**

The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at: **www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc**

Ian Brown, Head of Planning and Regeneration
Friday 10 August 2012

To advertise in this section
01303 817056

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

12/02115/LBC **Matfield House The Green, Brenchley**
- Listed Building Consent: (The Coach House) Removal of internal raking props and insertion of steel support structure and new concrete floor (LB)

12/02136/HOUSE **Tylers Crooke Crook Road, Brenchley**
- Single and two-storey rear extensions (LB) (PROW)

12/02187/TELN5 **Major Yorks Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Broadwater**
- Telecommunication: 1.6m high DSLAM green telecommunications cabinet (CA) (LB)

12/02141/HOUSE **Church Farm Church Road, Goudhurst**
- Single storey rear extension, first floor rear extension and chimney to side elevation (CA)

12/02165/LBC **First Cottage North Road, Goudhurst**
- Listed Building Consent - Conversion of bedroom space to en-suite toilet and shower (LB)

12/02084/FUL **The Granary Swigs Hole Farm, Horsmonden**
- Retrospective - Conversion of redundant farm building to single dwelling (LB)

12/02085/LBC **The Granary Swigs Hole Farm, Horsmonden**
- Listed Building Consent - To retain works for conversion of redundant farm building to single dwelling already started (LB)

12/02157/HOUSE **The Coach House Broadford, Horsmonden**
- Single storey extension with glazed link to rear of building, removal of 2 no. porches and internal alterations (LB)

12/02163/LBC **The Coach House Broadford, Horsmonden**
- Listed building consent - single storey extension with glazed link to rear of building, removal of 2 no. porches and internal alterations (LB)

12/02162/HOUSE **Lindridge Lodge Farm Lamberhurst Quarter, Lamberhurst**
- Demolition of an existing three bay garage with room over and replacement three bay garage with room over (LB)

12/01992/HOUSE **5 Warwick Park Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks**
- Conversion and integration of garage into kitchen area and alterations to fenestration (CA) (LB)

12/02099/LBC **Caffe Nero 12 - 14 High Street, Pantiles & St Marks**
- Listed building consent - remove 3nr existing AC condenser units from side elevation and install 2nr new AC condenser units to rear elevation (works already completed) (LB)

12/01982/FUL **Town & Country Housing Group Monson House, Park**
- Cycle shelter on existing car parking space at rear of building (CA) (LB)

12/01995/HOUSE **22 Harmony Street Rusthall, Rusthall**
- Conservatory to rear (CA)

12/02091/LBC **St Michael's Burrswood, Speldhurst**
- Listed Building Consent - Replacement of failed downpipes on southern elevation (LB)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 11 August 2012

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

Swale BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Swale Borough Council as Local Planning Authority has received the following applications which are being advertised to ascertain the views of persons living near the sites and other interested parties. The proposed developments relate to one or more of the following:

1. The site of the application is within/affecting a designated Conservation Area (Section 73) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
2. The proposed development may affect the Listed Building or it's setting.
3. The application is for a Major Development.

REPRESENTATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 27 AUGUST 2012

SW/12/0905:
Conservation area consent for the demolition of a signal box which will be demolished to below ground level and the area of land to be made good and covered in railway ballast - Faversham Signal Box (Adj St Catherines Church Yard), FAVERSHAM; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/12/0923:
Change of use from A2 (financial and professional services) to A3 (Café) - 97 High Street, SHEERNESS; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/12/0948:
Single storey rear extension to kitchen and dining room of 2 storey terraced house - 33 Norman Road, FAVERSHAM; **REASON 1**

SW/12/0952:
New controlled atmosphere fruit store (in part replacing outdated store at Rodmersham Court Farm), new empty fruit bin store and associated hardstandings for access, circulation and for open storage - G H Dean & Co, Hempstead Farm, Hempstead Lane, BAPCHILD; **REASON 3**

SW/12/0967:
New larger replacement playgroup mobile building - St Marys Playgroup, Orchard Place, FAVERSHAM; **REASON 1**

SW/12/0970 & SW/12/0971:
New kitchen extract flue to replace existing through roof to rear of building - Spice Lounge, 76 Preston Street, FAVERSHAM; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/12/0975:
Application for a new planning permission to replace extant planning permission SW/09/0431 for change of use of existing retail shop (A1) to mixed use A1 and A3 (restaurant/café) - 1 Court Street, FAVERSHAM; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/12/0982 & SW/12/0990:
Removal of conservatory and two storey rear extension - Little Fisher Street Farm, BADLESMERE; **REASON 2**

SW/12/0983:
Erection of gates and side fencing to existing accesses - Byfield Court, Sheppey Way, BOBBING; **REASON 2**

SW/12/0996:
Removal of agricultural occupancy condition (condition (v)) attached to permission NK/9/62/53B/6730B dated 20th October 1972 - Stickfast Farmhouse, Sheppey Way, BOBBING; **REASON 3**

Particulars of the proposal(s) can be obtained from Planning Services, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, where copies of the applications and all documents submitted with them may be inspected during office hours; any representations should be made in writing to this address.

James Freeman
Head of Planning

Folkestone

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the Council:

Y12/0413/SH - The Old Lympne School The Street Lympne Hythe Kent - Conversion of part of ground floor of outbuilding and alterations to roof space to outbuilding, including installation of two dormer windows to front (south facing) roof slope, to form ground and first floor living accommodation for use as an annexe to existing dwelling and erection of single storey conservatory to east side of outbuildings.

Y12/0694/SH - 12 High Street New Romney Kent TN28 8DD - Installation of 2 uPVC replacement shop front bay windows.

Y12/0605/SH# - 1 Skinner Road Lydd Romney Marsh Kent TN29 9DD - Felling of a Sycamore tree situated within a conservation area.

Y12/0688/SH - Verge opposite The Green, Portland Road and verge opposite The Paddocks, Prospect Road Hythe Kent - Re-siting of two pole mounted CCTV cameras.

Y12/0692/SH - Penfold House Coolinge Lane Folkestone Kent - Listed building consent for works to repair/replace brickwork, soffits, windows, fire escapes, rainwater goods and external plumbing.

Y12/0672/SH - 9 Westcliff House West Cliff Gardens Folkestone Kent CT20 1SZ - Installation of replacement uPVC windows and balcony doors to 3rd floor flat on northeast elevation

Y12/0689/SH - Grass Verge Outside 1 Tanners Hill (on corner with Dental Street) Hythe Kent - Installation of an equipment cabinet (telecommunication development 56 day notification).

Y12/0219/SH#* - Land adjoining Orchard Cottage The Street Postling Kent - Erection of a single dwelling house.

Y12/0681/SH - The Flat 9 High Street Hythe Kent CT21 5AD - Separation of upper floor living accommodation to create a self contained first and second floor maisonette.

Any representations should be made in writing to the Head of Planning, Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY or emailed to planning@shepway.gov.uk. Comments should be made in writing within 21 days from the date of publication. It should be noted that any representations received will be made available for public inspection.

Some applications can be viewed at other locations in addition to the Civic Centre, Folkestone. The applications are marked as follows:

\# - The One Stop Shop, Magpies, Church Approach, New Romney

\+ - Hythe Town Council Offices, Stade Street, Hythe

Applications can be viewed and comments made online at http://searchplanapps.shepway.gov.uk/online-applications/.

The applications marked (*) do not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated.

C Lewis, Head of Planning
Shepway District Council

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13

KCC/TW/0271/2012 - Proposed development at Cranbrook WTW, Golford Road, Bakers Cross, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 3NW.

Southern Water Ltd is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for construction of three glass-reinforced (GRP) kiosks to support sewerage infrastructure upgrades.

You may view this application at Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, 8 Grosvenor Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2AB.

Alternatively, details of the application can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/viewapplications or at our offices in Maidstone at the address below during all reasonable office hours.

We accept comments online via our website, by email to planning.applications@kent.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX within 21 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons and may include publishing on the Borough Council website.

Sharon Thompson
Head of Planning
Applications Group
Kent County Council
Dated: 12 August 2012

Kent County Council

THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Town and Country Planning Act
Notice of Applications

MA/12/1120/S - CRISBROOK HOUSE, CAVE HILL, TOVIL, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 6DU - An application for listed building consent for the replacement of 5No. windows; refurnishment of front door; and refurbishment/replacement of weatherboarding. **Reason: 3**

MA/12/1161/N - 31, BREWER STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1RU - Proposed entrance to basement flat 1 via stepped external front access. **Reason: 2**

MA/12/1218/N - THE MAIDSTONE STUDIOS, NEW CUT ROAD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 5NZ - Alteration to external appearance at Level3/Roof level of existing building to facilitate conversion of plant/storage areas into office accommodation. **Reason: 6**

MA/12/1234/N - BARN COTTAGE, BOXLEY ROAD, BOXLEY, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 3DN - Listed Building Consent to remove feather-edge boarding and replace with treated stained boards to same profile. **Reason: 3**

MA/12/1302/N - GLOBE HOUSE, 13, PUDDING LANE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1PA - Change of use of first and second floors into 2(no) two bedroom flats and 1(no) 1 bedroom flat including second floor rear extension. **Reason: 2**

MA/12/1306/S - THE GROVE, GROVE LANE, HUNTON, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 0SE - Reinstatement of a first floor bay window with roof gable over to south elevation. **Reason: 1**

MA/12/1307/S - THE GROVE, GROVE LANE, HUNTON, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 0SE - An application for listed building consent for the reinstatement of a first floor bay window with roof gable over to south elevation. **Reason: 3**

Reasons for advertisement key:
1 - Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.
2 - Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.
3 - Application is for Listed Building Consent.
6 - Application is Major Development.

MAIDSTONE Borough Council

Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Wednesday 8.30am to 5.30pm, Thursday 8.30am to 7pm, Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **26th August 2012**, quoting the application number.

Rob Jarman, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated:** 12th August 2012

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PREMISES/ GOODS LICENCES

LICENSING ACT 2003:
Application for a Variation of Premises Licence

Notice is hereby given that Kelly and Erinch Kalfa of Tudor Walk, Dorgate has applied to Canterbury City Council for Variation of Premises Licence.

Friday to Saturday, 20.00 to 24.00 performance of live and recorded music/entertainment. Friday to Saturday, supply of alcohol until 24.00; Friday to Saturday, late night refreshment 23.00 to 00.30 hot drinks only. Friday to Saturday hours open to public until 01.00-/NYE 02.00. Non standard timing entertainments and music until 01-00 NYE for the premises The Lounge Restaurant and Bar situated at 1-3 St Anne's Road, Tonkerton CT5 2DN.

A register of licensing applications can be inspected at http://www.canterbury.gov.uk/licensing or at Council Offices, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1YW tel. 01227 862000 by appointment with the Licensing team between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday.

Any person wishing to submit representations to our application must give notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by 01/09/2012.

The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Panel and will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives: the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm, in the case of an application for a provisional statement, please note that representations will be restricted once a statement has been issued.

Licensing Act 2003
Notice of application to vary a Premises Licence

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I **Mr Can Topcu** have applied to the Haringey Council for a new premises licence in respect of the premises known as **The Banc, 261-263 West Green Road, London, N15 3BH** as follows: **Late Night Refreshment & Supply of alcohol for consumption on the premises:**
From 22:00 to 00:00 Daily
Any person wishing to make representation in respect of the above activities may do so by writing to Licensing Team, Frontline Services, Urban Environment, Units 271-272, Lee Valley Technopark, Ashley Road, Tottenham, London, N17 9LN by 28 August 2012.
A copy of the application is kept by the Licensing Team, Frontline Services, Urban Environment, Units 271-272, Lee Valley Technopark, Ashley Road, Tottenham, London, N17 9LN. The application can be viewed Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm, except bank holidays.
It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction for making a false statement is a Level 5 fine on the standard scale.

Licensing Act 2003
Notice of application for the grant a premises licence

Notice is hereby given that Fort Horsted Properties Ltd. has applied to Medway Council on 2.8.12 for the grant of a premises licence at Fort Horsted, Primrose Close, Chatham ME4 6HZ for:
Plays, films, live music, recorded music, performance of dance & anything of a similar description; provision of facilities for making music, dancing & entertainment of a similar description from Mon - Sun 10:00 to 00:00hrs. Late night refreshment Sun - Thur 23:00 to 00:00hrs, Fri & Sat 23:00 to 02:00hrs. Supply of alcohol, Opening Hours Sun - Thur 10:00 to 00:00hrs, Fri & Sat 10:00 to 02:00hrs & from the start of permitted hours on New Years Eve to the terminal hour on New Years Day. Bank Holiday Sundays, 24th & 26th December, St Patrick's Day & St George's Day until 02:00hrs. On a maximum of 6 occasions per calendar year, for all licensable activities the terminal hour to be extended to 06:00hrs Indoors only. No more than 1 such event per calendar month. All activities are both indoors and outdoors with all outdoor activities to cease no later than 22:00hrs.
Any person wishing to object to the application should do so by giving notice in writing stating the grounds of objection to Licensing Unit, Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 4TR no later than 30.8.12. A copy of the application can also be viewed at the council offices during normal office hours or by visiting www.medway.gov.uk
It is an offence to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in or in connection with an application for a premises licence and the maximum fine on being convicted of such an offence is £5000.
Signed Milton & Shaw Associates Ltd
Authorised Agents
For & on behalf of the applicant

Snodland Town Council
NOTICE UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 SECTION 123(2A)

AREA OF LAND AT

Notice is hereby given that Snodland Town Council intends to dispose (leasehold disposal) of an area of land to Snodland Football Club - for the location of a Home Football Ground and Club House at Potyns Sports Ground (as identified on the plans which are available for inspection at Snodland Town Council offices at the address below) which consists of an open space. Objections to the intended disposal of land must be made in writing and addressed to:
The Chairman
Snodland Town Council
Devonshire Rooms
Waghorn Road
Snodland ME6 5QR
By no later than 16 August 2012
Dated the 5 August 2012
Anne Moloney (Chairman)



Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010
Notice under article 11 of application for planning permission

Proposed development at: 62 High Street, Newington, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME9 7JL
Take notice that application is being made by: Manor Homes Mr Andrew Hill
For planning permission to: Demolition of existing buildings and erection of 3x3 bed dwelling and 1x4 bed dwelling, new access, parking & amenity space
Local Planning Authority to whom the application is being submitted: Swale Borough Council
Local Planning Authority address: Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 3HT
Any owner of the land or tenant who wishes to make representations about this application should write to the council within 21 days of this notice.

LICENSING ACT 2003
Notice of Application for Grant/Variation of a premises licence

Notice is hereby given that Kana Yogeswaran and Chithra Yogeswaran have applied to Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council for the grant/variation of a Premises Licence in respect of premises known as Aylesford Village Shop, 21 High Street, Aylesford, Kent, ME20 7AX. The application seeks the licence in respect of the following: • The sale of alcohol • Monday to Saturday 06.00 - 20.00 • Sunday 6.00 - 16.00 Details of the register of record of the application can be viewed at the Tonbridge and Malling Council Offices (Licensing Dept), Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling during normal office hours. Any representations from interested parties or responsible authorities must be made in writing to the Council by 05th of September 2012.
It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with the application and the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction is a fine not exceeding £5000.

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PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF ASHFORD

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATHS AE363 AND AE639 IN THE PARISHES OF SEVINGTON AND MERSHAM

PUBLIC FOOTPATHS AE363 AND AE639 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984, SECTION 14 (1) AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close the following public Footpaths from the 24th August 2012

- Public Footpath AE363 between Highfield Lane & Blind Lane.
- Public Footpath AE639 between Highfield Lane and the junction with Public Footpath AE337A (NGR TR 037 408)

The paths will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that they will reopen before the 1st October 2012.

The paths are to be closed because the laying of water mains is planned on or near them and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

The alternative route is via Blind Lane, Public Footpath AE364, Public Footpath AE344, Church Road, Public Footpath AE340 and Public Footpath AE639 and will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact: Melvyn Twycross

PROW - IN THE DISTRICTS OF DOVER & SHEPWAY

NOTICE OF THE EXTENSION OF AN ORDER TEMPORARILY CLOSING PUBLIC BYWAY HE30 / ER146 IN THE PARISHES OF DENTON WITH WOOTTON AND ELHAM

(PUBLIC BYWAY HE30 / ER146) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

The Secretary of State for Transport has directed that the Order made by Kent County Council on the 15th August 2011, the effect of which was to prohibit all traffic from Public Byway HE30 / ER146 has been extended until 14th November 2012 or until completion of the works, whichever is the earlier.

Pedestrian access will be available from Snode Hill to Public Footpath ER130 at Gatteridge Farm

The route will be closed between Reece Lane and Snode Hill.

The route will be closed for the construction of a new water pumping station and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact: Edward Denne

PROW - IN THE DISTRICT OF SEVENOAKS

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH SR457 IN THE PARISH OF PENSHURST

PUBLIC FOOTPATH SR457 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984, SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath SR457, between Spring Hill (B2188) and a point approximately 140 metres to the east (at NGR TQ 523 413) from the 27th August 2012.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen before 11th December 2012.

The path is to be closed because works are planned on or near it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

The alternative route is along the southern and eastern side of the works area and will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact: Mrs N Biddall.

PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF SWALE

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH ZR88 IN THE PARISH OF IWADE

PUBLIC FOOTPATH ZR88, IWADE (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has temporarily closed Public Footpath ZR88 (Saxon Shore Way) between NGR TQ 894 708 just south of Codds Creek and NGR TQ 895 706, a distance of approximately 150 metres from the 1st August 2012.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen after 2 months.

The path is to be closed because works are planned on or near it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

The alternative route is adjacent to the path and will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact: Michael Ellis

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH ZR194 IN THE PARISH OF TONGE

(PUBLIC FOOTPATH ZR194, TONGE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984, SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has temporarily closed Public Footpath ZR194 between Panteny Lane and Dully Road, Tonge from the 30th July 2012.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen after 2 months.

The path is to be closed because works are planned on or near it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

The alternative route will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact: Michael Ellis

Countryside Access Service
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XX **Dated: 12th August 2012**

This document is available in alternative formats and can be explained in a range of languages.

For further information, please contact Kent Countryside Access Service, on 0845 345 0210 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess

Kent County Council



HIGHWAYS

HIGHWAYS - ASHFORD AREA

BEDLAM LANE, SMARDEN (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to replace a culvert, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Bedlam Lane, Smarden, on or after 28 August 2012 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between Badgers and Box Farm, with no access for through traffic.

The alternative route is via Crockenhill Road, Mundy Bois Road, Smarden Bell Road and Headcorn Road.

ROSE HILL, WITTERSHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Rose Hill, Wittersham, on or after 14 August 2012 for up to 3 days, between 8.00 am and 5.00 pm.

The road will be closed in phases for its entire length.

The alternative route is via Stocks Road, Acton Lane and Ebony Road.

WHITE HILL, BOUGHTON ALUPH, ASHFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on White Hill, Boughton Aluph, on or after 13 August 2012 for up to 3 days, between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm.

The road will be closed in phases for its entire length.

There will be no access for through traffic between the A28 and A251 using this route.

The alternative route is via A251 Faversham Road, Wye Road, and A28 Canterbury Road.

HIGHWAYS - CANTERBURY AREA

BROAD OAK ROAD, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of remedial carriageway surfacing works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Broad Oak Road, Canterbury, on or after 28 August 2012 for up to 3 nights, between 7.00 pm and midnight.

The road will be closed from the junction with Stonebridge Road, for a distance of 70 metres south-westwards.

There will be no access for through traffic between Kingsmead Road and Vauxhall Road.

The alternative route is via B2248 Kingsmead Road, A28 Sturry Road, Vauxhall Road and Broad Oak Road.

COTTON ROAD, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of electricity cabling works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Cotton Road, Canterbury, on or after 13 August 2012 for up to 2 nights, between 8.00 pm and 5.00 am.

The road will be closed between The Boundary and the junction with Cow Lane.

The alternative route is via Ten Perch Road, A28 Wincheap and Cow Lane.

DRILL LANE, ICKHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway resurfacing works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Drill Lane, Ickham, on or after 30 August 2012 for up to 3 working days (with the road re-opened over the weekend).

The road will be closed for its entire length.

The alternative route is via Wickham Road and Wickham Lane.

HALES DRIVE, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of tree safety works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Hales Drive, Canterbury, on or after 14 August 2012 for up to 3 days, between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm.

The road will be closed between the junctions with St Stephen's Road and The Terrace.

The alternative route is via Manwood Avenue and St Stephen's Hill.

OLD RUTTINGTON LANE, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Old Ruttington Lane, Canterbury, on or after 20 August 2012 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with North Holmes Road and Broad Street.

ST PETER'S LANE, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To enable phone ducting works to be carried out in the carriageway, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on St Peter's Lane, Canterbury, on or after 28 August 2012 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the junction with St Peter's Street.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT, 1984

(PROPOSED ZEBRA CROSSINGS STATION ROAD WEST, NORTH LANE AND ST PETER'S PLACE, CANTERBURY)

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council, as local traffic authority, and after consultation with the chief officer of police, proposes to establish three crossings (Zebra) for pedestrians under Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as follows:

STATION ROAD WEST

8 metres north east of the junction with St Dunstan's Street, Canterbury

NORTH LANE

26 metres north east of the junction with St Dunstan's Street, Canterbury

ST PETER'S PLACE

6 metres north east of the junction with Tower Way, Canterbury

VICTORIA PARK, HERNE BAY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Victoria Park, Herne Bay, on or after 29 August 2012 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between Fenoulhet Way and Canterbury Road.

The alternative route is via Canterbury Road, B2205 High Street and Cavendish Road.

WALDER CHAIN, BARHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway and kerbing works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Walder Chain, Barham, on or after 13 August 2012 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in phases for its entire length.

The alternative route is via Walder Chain, Agester Lane, A260 Canterbury Road, Eagle Lane, Church Lane, Gravel Castle Road (Rabbit Hole in reverse) and Derringstone Downs.

WATLING STREET, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to provide a new customer phone connection, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting southbound traffic on Watling Street, Canterbury, on or after 28 August 2012 for up to 2 nights, between 7.00 pm and midnight.

The road will be closed to southbound traffic between St George's Lane and the A28 Rhodaus Lane / Upper Bridge Street.

The alternative route is via St George's Lane and St George's Street.

The order restricting the use of St George's Lane to buses and taxis will be suspended to allow its use as a diversion.

Northbound traffic is unaffected.

HIGHWAYS - DOVER AREA

BEAUTE LANE, STAPLE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Beaute Lane, Staple, on or after 30 August 2012 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from A257 Roman Road up to and including the junction with Rusham Road.

The alternative route is via A257 Roman Road, Preston Hill, Nash Road and Rusham Road.

VARIOUS ROADS, DOVER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER AUGUST 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on various roads in the Dover area, on or after 13 August 2012, as shown below.

MAXTON ROAD, DOVER - closed from 13 August for up to 3 days

The road will be closed for its entire length

The alternative route is via Mount Road, Manor Rise, Manor Road, Approach Road and B2011 Folkestone Road

MILL STREET, TEMPLE EWELL - 29 August for 1 day, between 7.00 am and 5.00 pm

The closure is between High Street and Templar Road

Alternative route High Street, London Road and Templar Road

MINNIS LANE, RIVER - closed on 30 August for 1 day, between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm

The closure is between Lower Road and Lewisham Road

Alternative routes

Southbound - Lower Road, Common Lane and Lewisham Road

Northbound - Lewisham Road, Crabble Road, London Road (River), London Road (Temple Ewell), Alkham Road (note 11' 6" (3.5 M) height restriction) and Lower Road.

ALKHAM ROAD, TEMPLE EWELL -

closed on 30 August for 1 night between 6.00 pm and 10.00 pm

closed on 31 August for 1 night between 6.00 pm and 5.00 am

The closure is between Kearsney Station and Lower Road

The alternative route is via London Road (Temple Ewell) and Lower Road

HIGHWAYS - MAIDSTONE AREA

BEARSTED ROAD, BOXLEY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of new service connections to The Kent Institute of Medicine and Science, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Bearsted Road, Boxley, on or after 13 August 2012 for up to 3 weeks or until the works have been completed.

There will be no access for through traffic from the roundabout (New Cut Road) to Gidd's Pond Cottages.

The alternative route is via New Cut Road, A20 Ashford Road, Roundwell, The Street, Ware Street.

CHURCH ROAD, CHART SUTTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Church Road, Chart Sutton, on or after 28 August 2012 for up to 4 days or until the works have been completed.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions of Warmlake Road and Chart Road.

The alternative route is via Church Road, Chart Road, Chart Hill Road, Warmlake Road.

B2162 HAMPSTEAD LANE, YALDING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of repair works to Twyford Bridge, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on B2162 Hampstead Lane, Yalding, on or after 28 August 2012 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at Twyford Bridge.

The alternative route is via B2015 Maidstone Road, A26 Tonbridge Road, B2163 Teston Lane, B2010 Lower Road, Smith Hill, Yalding Hill, High Street, B2162 Benover Road, Hampstead Lane.

VICARAGE ROAD, YALDING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to lay a high voltage cable, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Vicarage Road, Yalding, on or after 28 August 2012 for up to 4 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside a the property "Wolverely".

The alternative route is via West Street, Hunton Hill, Upper Hunton Hill, B2163 Heath Road/Ewell Lane, Smith's Hill, B2010 Yalding Hill.

VINTERS ROAD, MAIDSTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to lay ducts for new underground cables, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Vinters Road, Maidstone, on or after 13 August 2012 for up to 3 weeks or until the works have been completed.

There will be no access for through traffic from Huntsman Lane to the "No Entry" section.

The alternative route is via Albion Place, Andrew Boughton Way, A20 Ashford Road, Huntsman Lane.

WATER LANE, HEADCORN (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of repair works to Stephen's Bridge, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Water Lane, Headcorn, on or after 29 August 2012 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the bridge.

The alternative route is via New House Lane, Waterman Quarters, Bletchenden Road, A274 Biddenden Road/Biddenden Lane/Wheeler Street/Station Road/High Street/North Street/Moat Road.

WILLOW LANE, YALDING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Willow Lane, Yalding, on or after 13 August 2012 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between Queen Street and Pearsons Green Road.

The alternative route is via Queen Street, Pearsons Green Road.

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council

HIGHWAYS

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(VARIOUS ROADS, MAIDSTONE)
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on the routes described in the Schedule.

The alternative routes as described will be noted in the schedule. Access will be maintained up to the points of closure. The Order will become effective on Monday 27th August 2012, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

Schedule

Road Name:	Bockingford Lane, Tovil
Extent:	Hayle Mill Lane to Straw Mill Hill
Dates:	Start: 27th August 2012 End: 28th August 2012
Diversion	Hayle Mill Lane, Cave Hill, Straw Mill Hill, Stockett Lane

Road Name:	A229 Staplehurst Road/Maidstone Road, Marden
Extent:	Stilebridge Lane to Chart Hill Road
Dates:	Start: 3rd September 2012 End: 17th September 2012
Diversion:	Temporary 30mph speed restriction

Road Name:	Laceys Lane, Linton
Extent:	Barnes Road to Redwall Lane
Dates:	Start: 10th September 2012 End: 24th September 2012
Diversion:	Barnes Lane, Wheelers Lane, A229 Linton Hill, Redwall Lane

Road Name:	Rigshill Road, Otterden
Extent:	Bunce Court Road to Stalisfield Road
Dates:	Start: 17th September 2012 End: 1st October 2012
Diversion:	Stalisfield Road, Hart Hill, A20 Maidstone Road/Ashford Road, Hubbards Hill, Bunce Court Road

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate carriageway patching works to be undertaken by KCC Highways. For further information or comment please call John Reynolds on 08458 247 800.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(VARIOUS ROADS, MAIDSTONE)
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on the routes described in the Schedule.

The alternative routes as described will be noted in the schedule. Access will be maintained up to the points of closure. The Order will become effective on Monday 13th August 2012, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

Schedule

Road Name:	Warwick Place
Extent:	Bower Street to Tonbridge Road
Dates:	Start: 13th August 2012 End: 20th August 2012
Diversion:	Tonbridge Road, Bower Street

Road Name:	Albert Street
Extent:	From Perryfield Street for entire length
Dates:	Start: 20th August 2012 End: 27th August 2012
Diversion:	Perryfield Street, Arundel Street, Perry Street

Road Name:	Salisbury Road
Extent:	Boxley Road to Park Avenue
Dates:	Start: 28th August 2012 End: 4th September 2012
Diversion:	Boxley Road, Grecian Street, Park Avenue

Road Name:	Wheelers Lane, Linton
Extent:	Linton Hill to Barnes Lane
Dates:	Start: 3rd September 2012 End: 17th September 2012
Diversion:	Westbound: A229 Linton Hill, Redwall Lane, Bonflower Lane Eastbound: Barnes Lane, Laceys Lane, Redwall Lane, A229 Linton Hill

Road Name:	Grove Road
Extent:	Camp Way to A274 Sutton Road
Dates:	Start: 17th September 2012 End: 24th September 2012
Diversion:	A274 Sutton Road, Mangravet Avenue, Camp way

Road Name:	East Street, Hunton
Extent:	Hunton Road to West Street
Dates:	Start: 8th October 2012 End: 22nd October 2012
Diversion:	Hunton Hill, Upper Hunton Hill, B2163 Heath Road, A229 Linton Hill, B2079 Maidstone Road, Underlyn Lane, Hunton Road

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate carriageway patching works to be undertaken by KCC Highways. For further information or comment please call John Reynolds on 08458 247 800.

HIGHWAYS - SEVENOAKS AREA

BOTSOM LANE, WEST KINGSDOWN
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Botsom Lane, West Kingsdown, on or after 13 August 2012 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction with Knatts Valley Road to A20 London Road.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Knatts Valley Road to A20 London Road.

The alternative route is via: approaching from the north on Knatts Valley Road , the diversion route is south along Knatts Valley Road, then south east along Knatts Lane, North East along School Lane and finally north west along A20 London Road. The route when approaching from the south is the same but reversed.

HARTLEY BOTTOM ROAD
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of the installation of a new water main, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Hartley Bottom Road, on or after 13th August 2012 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the junction with Hartley Hill Road and Idleigh Court Road.

The alternative route is via Hartley Bottom Road, B260 Main Road, Ash Road, North Ash Road.

PIT LANE, EDENBRIDGE, SEVENOAKS
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Pit Lane, Edenbridge, Sevenoaks, on or after 13 August 2012 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Swan Lane to Ridge Way.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions of Swan Lane and Ridge Way.

The alternative route is via: approaching from the East the diversion route is West along Swan Lane, then South along Swan Ridge and East along Ridgeway. The diversion for traffic approaching from the West is the same but reversed.

HIGHWAYS - SHEPWAY AREA

NEW STREET, FOLKESTONE
(PROHIBITION OF WAITING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

In the interests of road safety during gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting waiting at all times on New Street, Folkestone, on or after 13 August 2012 for up to 6 weeks or until the works have been completed.

This applies to all sections of the southern side of New Street that are currently unrestricted.

HIGHWAYS - SWALE AREA

TUNSTALL ROAD, TUNSTALL
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Tunstall Road, Tunstall, on or after 31 August 2012 for up to 5 days, or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junction with Bredgar Road and The Oast (in the vicinity of Tunstall Primary School).

The alternative route is via Hearts Delight Road, Bannister Hill, Borden Lane, Homewood Avenue, Ufton Lane, Gore Court Road, Woodstock Road and Tunstall Road.

The section of road is currently shown as Hearts Delight Road on the National Street Gazetteer, but in all common usage appears to be part of Tunstall Road.

HIGHWAYS - THANET AREA

CINDER PATH, BROADSTAIRS
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway pothole repairs, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Cinder Path, Broadstairs, on or after 30 August 2012 for up to 2 days, between 9.00 am and 4.00 pm.

The road will be closed between numbers 1 and 11.

The alternative route for through traffic is via Clarendon Road.

Access will be maintained whenever it is safe to do so, but there are likely to be some times when this is not possible, due to the use of machinery.

THE LENGTH, ST NICHOLAS AT WADE
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to provide a new gas supply to Alpha Cottage, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on The Length, St Nicholas at Wade, on or after 28 August 2012 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between Sea View Cottages and Elder Cottage, with no through access.

The alternative route is via Manor Road and A28 Canterbury Road.

WHITEHALL ROAD, RAMSGATE
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Whitehall Road, Ramsgate, on or after 16 August 2012 for up to 2 evenings, between 6.00 pm and 11.00 pm.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of the junction with Newington Road.

The alternative route is via Whitehall Road, St James' Avenue, Kings Avenue and Newington Road.

HIGHWAYS - TONBRIDGE & MALLING

CASTLE WAY & OXLEY SHAW LANE, LEYBOURNE
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Castle Way & Oxley Shaw Lane, Leybourne, on or after 2 September 2012 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

There will be no access for through traffic on Castle Way between the junctions of A20 London Road and Pump Close and there will be no access on Oxley Shaw Lane from A20 London Road.

The alternative route for Castle Way is via A20 London Road westbound, turn at roundabout junction Town Hill, A20 London Road eastbound and for Oxley Shaw Lane is via A20 London Road westbound, turn at roundabout junction Town Hill, A20 London Road eastbound, Castle Way, Lillieburn.

RYARSH LANE, WEST MALLING
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of repairs to a rag stone wall and carriageway patching patching, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Ryarsh Lane, West Malling, on or after 1 and 8 September 2012 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed its full length.

John Burr
Director Kent Highways
Invicta House
County Hall,
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ **Dated 12th August 2012**

For further information, please contact
Kent County Council Highways and Transportation,
on 08458 247 800 (local rate)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council



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(T&C's below)

GINA 65, likes bowling, golf, looking for N/S male, 60-66 for friendship, fun, nights in and out. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394623**

PAULA 27, attractive brunette, very outgoing and sensual looking for similar male for mature broadminded relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394571**

KAREN pretty single mum of one, 34, independent, professional, OHAC, looking for someone special to enjoy good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394563**

SARAH 40, large, tactile, likes cuddles, walks, cinema, beach, meals out, seeking male for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390912**

LADY 70's, easygoing, likes most things, medium build, seeks gent for friendship, car owner. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386331**



SENSUAL 32yr old professional with no time to have a relationship, seeks similar understanding male for compatible discreet relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386309**

BECKY 34 single mum of one, GSOH, employed with OHAC, fun to be with and very loving, WLTM Mr Right if he is out there? ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386305**

LOUISE young 48, long hair, blue eyes, cultured, easygoing, good natured, seeks intelligent, genuine guy for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389389**

TINA young 64, smoker, GSOH, loving, caring, likes animals, meals out, seeks male for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394201**

JULIE 5ft 9ins blue eyed blonde looking for male for mutually convenient meets, looks/status unimportant, discretion a must. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394123**

SUSAN first time advertiser very lonely and looking for love with considerate, loyal male with lots of love to give and GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393489**

TRACY likes nights in/out, seeking honest male, 36-46 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391884**

SERENE affable black attractive slim female 37 with a benevolent smile, friendly, loves reading nature, theatre, music, sports WLTM genuine caring gent, 34-47 to share laughter/life. London **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369411**

BUBBLY female, 49, kind, caring, honest, GSOH, brown hair, blue eyes, likes meals out, pubs, cooking, cinema, seeks male with similar interests for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390815**

HAPPY young looking 71yr old female, well travelled, intelligent, GSOH, seeks genuine, affectionate male, 60 plus. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393897**

MID 40's slim, attractive female, seeks single male, 65-80 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391989**

DONNA 24yr old single nurse, curvy, pretty, brown hair, big eyes, single and fun to be with, WLTM mature male for romance 25-45yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391117**

SARAH 27yr old single mum, independent, very pretty, GOSH, many interests, seeking male for cuddles and lots of TLC. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391097**

DENISE very normal single white female, likes nights in/out, keeping fit, seeking genuine romantic black male for ltr. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391093**

SLIM tall, elegant, feminine N/S, solvent lady, young 50's, likes travel, red wine, seeks tall, sincere, professional/military gent of high calibre. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394525**

LADY 70, likes most things, WLTM gent of similar age for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394309**

GINA 65, likes bowling, golf, looking for N/S male, 60-66 for friendship, fun, nights in and out. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394623**

HELEN 34yr old single mum to one, tall, slim and attractive, WLTM intelligent male for good conversations and adult meets, 30-50yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394475**

ELISA blue eyed brunette 39, curvy and delicious, loves to travel and live life, seeking similar free spirited loving male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394461**

VICKY 26yr old pretty blonde, athletic, good job, great house/car, single and getting bored, looking for male to entertain me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394459**

I'M Dawn a petite medium built female who enjoys most things looking for fun, love and companionship. Any age/looks/status. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394129**

YOUNG in outlook 60yr old lady, seeks gent with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393173**

JUDY slim blue eyed blonde, 35yrs, great fun, intelligent, educated, N/S, seeks witty guy for gym dates, friendship and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393135**

VERY attractive single black female, 32, loves night in/out, seeking genuine companion for text fun, love and laughter. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393131**

FAY very lonely single mum, 26yrs looking for some adult companionship with open minded, non-judgmental male. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393121**

LORRAINE 32yr old petite attractive female looking for male to turn up the heat on our rather gloomy summer. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393119**

MARGARET middle aged, attractive, likes storm chasing, cooking, seeks male with GSOH, possible forces. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391648**

JEANETTE big brown eyed busty fit size 10 with lots of interest, searching for a sincere man to share love and life with. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374703**

JENNY very young shy black female looking for reliable, genuine nice older man to help me become an attentive lover, 40-70yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374701**

HELLO I'm Jane, attractive, genuine, caring, intelligent, romantic and single at 38yrs, what are you waiting for? Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374677**

ALISHA blue eyed petite brunette, likes to keep fit, cooking, holidays, seeks male 30-45 for special times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392399**

MICHELE very attractive black single mum, 32yrs, someone you could take home to your mother, seeking a one in a million guy. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391879**

GEORGINA likes horses, dogs, walks, seeks male, 60-72 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386426**

TANYA 28, beautiful black single mum, very body confident and all out of love. Lonely and looking for good company with experienced respectful man. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381727**

HI genuine, fun to be with male? Nancy 39, attractive, discreet, lonely and in need of some much missed male attention. Call me **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381705**

IRENE looking for happy go lucky relationship with trustworthy male for romantic evenings in, quiet nights out, passionate weekends away and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381701**

SLIM tall, elegant, feminine, NS, solvent lady, young 50's, loves travel, red wine, seeks tall, sincere, military/professional gent of high calibre. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388071**

JEM 24 new to this, WLTM someone who also enjoys fine wine/dining for good times and adult relationship, 28-45yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392497**

ELIZABETH 70 plus, enjoys life, GSOH, seeks caring man for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390990**

51YR old attractive Queen of the Jungle, seeking genuine, caring older gent for uncomplicated times together. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390916**

JACKIE 32 attractive classy professional, blue eyes, brown hair, healthy/trim, well travelled, feminine, smart, seeks male, 40-50yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391013**

JAYNE honest sincere attractive lonely professional, OHAC, looking for fun times with similar lonely gent, age/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390985**

AFFABLE serene black attractive slim female 37 with a benevolent smile, loves reading nature, theatre, music WLTM genuine caring gent to share laughter/life. London **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369411**

MEL easy going middle aged singleton looking for adult companionship with nice male who appreciates a feminine, attractive lady. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392487**

WELL educated female, slim, smart, mid 50's, needing to restart life, looking for tall, slim, smart gent with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391136**

LADY 60's, bubbly, hurt in past, likes socialising, cooking, cats, holidays, seeks kind honest gent, 58-65 for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389653**

KIRSTY 44yr going on 24yrs, sensual, attractive and in need of spoiling, and attention, seeks like-minded male for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383051**

BERYL 57, likes fishing, home life, seeks gent, 60-65. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382503**

NATALIE professional 30's female, no ties, everything a classy blonde should be, looking for special times with male up to 65yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391871**

YOUTHFUL 52yr old female, old fashioned, seeks N/S male, 52-56 to have a talk and laugh with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390771**

CARIBBEAN young lady, 30, caring, genuine, seeks young Christian gent, 30-40 who is dedicated to God for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386117**

SUSIE tactile 33yr old female who loves fast cars and motorbikes, seeks genuine male prepared to live life in the fast lane, 35-50yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382163**

LYNDA very attractive attached female, own transport and willing to travel, seeking similar natured male for extra circular activities. Must be discreet. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386653**

KERRY blonde blue eyed cultured lady, very genuine, caring, seeking caring natured male 45-58 for loving romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386649**

48YR old female, seeks tall, caring male in the West Sussex area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388974**

NICOLE lonely and looking for love, cultured, intelligent, beautiful, creative and looking for sincere male for mature loving ltr. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388145**

JACQUELINE blue eyed attractive petite blonde, fit/active and social looking to meet similar kind male for ltr and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388137**

MARION slim attractive long legged female, WLTM caring sensitive male for mutual attention, good conversation and romantic dates. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393509**

CLARE 36yr old nurse, pretty, slim, active, all round good catch, seeking male 40-70yrs for mature loving relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393479**

SUSAN gorgeous 29yr old lonely Scottish lass new to area and at loose end, seeking reliable caring male up to 40yrs for friendship/more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393465**

JACQ 45, slim, natural blonde, blue eyes, GSOH, seeks confident guy for company/friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391564**

KAREN 38 slim and attractive seeking confident professional for companionship, status/looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392407**

28YR old lady, seeking male, 35-60 for serious relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391756**

BUBBLY fun loving single mum, 47, seeks Knight in shining armour, 38-55 to put the spark back into life. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392951**

SHARON 33, slim blonde, blue eyes outgoing, attractive, looking to put some much needed fun back into life, seeks male 30-45yrs. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383047**

PETITE French lady, likes to be pampered, seeks sugar daddy, 40-55 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379579**

FEMALE 58, widow, attractive, seeking mature gent, 60 plus with GSOH for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379649**

ATTRACTIVE 48yr old lady, slim, blonde hair, blue eyes, likes travel, cooking, working out, seeking loving man. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390868**

MICHELLE fit trendy 40's female, no ties, good job, OHAC, fun to be with, looking for honest trustworthy male for friendship, poss ltr. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389757**

TRUDIE blue eyes, dark hair, solvent, OHAC, enjoys life, spending money, going out, seeking genuine male to enjoy life with and spoil. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389755**

DEBS 38 green eyed sophisticated blonde, attractive size 12, not looking for anything long term or steady just fun with intelligent male, 30-60yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386273**

AMANDA 25yr old easygoing singleton looking for fun times only with mature male, 35-55. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389733**

STEVE 30, easy going, seeking mature female, 30-50 for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391932**

47YR old tall male, GSOH, seeking female for loving relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393071**

YOUNG 60yr old male, OHAC, seeking love and affection. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393055**

SINCERE male, 55, seeks attractive, sincere lady for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393591**

MATURE professional, semi-retired man, fit, well travelled, financially sound, not old but very well done, seeks elegant, mature, worldly lady for close companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393369**

GEORGE sincere, slim, active, likes meals out, drives, seeks lady 70-85 to enjoy life and share happy times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392625**

PETE 40, dark hair, blue eyes, fit, likes dancing, walks, cinema, meals out, seeks female, 25-50 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391748**

RON 62, good at heart, divorced, looking for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392533**

HANDSOME polite male, likes music, swimming, football, cricket, cooking, seeks respectful, attractive female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391812**

DAVID 70 plus, lonely, seeks lady, 70 plus for fun times and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391878**

Men Seeking

Ladies Text n' Chat. Text in now and chat to local people.

Send : CHAT601 To : 65125 (T&C's below)

LIGHT hearted 58yr old male, 6ft, blue eyes, slim, lively, active, seeks pretty woman 28-50 for fun times. Croydon. **Tel No:0906 515 7112 Box No: 393567**

MICHAEL dark hair, brown eyes, 5ft 9ins, outgoing, likes cinema, meals out, walks, animals, looking for friendship, romance and relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394863**

MALE 55, seeks attractive lady for friendship and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394761**

GARY 30, flirty and fun, interested ladies. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392298**

TONY 57, single, no ties, likes music, art, dancing, theatre, walks, seeks female, 40-60 for friendship and romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394371**

PAUL 41, own home, looking for lovely lady, 30-45. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394367**

JASON 37, 5ft 8ins, short hair, blue eyes, medium build, likes football, body building, cooking, seeks female for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394369**

DAVID 37, good looking, fit, seeking older lady for discreet relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392242**

JAMES 40's, good looking, single dad, seeking lovely lady for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393665**

49YR old male, 6ft 1ins, easygoing, seeking serious relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394535**

MATURE guy, fit, blue eyes, fair hair, seeking female. **Tel No:0906 515 7112 Box No: 393107**

50 and shades of grey, looking for day time fun with female, 18-65. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394401**

SPANISH/SWEDISH speaker sought for 67yr old Chartered Accountant for education and companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392306**

MALE likes animals, simple things in life, seeks N/S, tall, slim female with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391738**

EXPERIENCED fella 55, good fun, seeks lady, 35-55 for exciting times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393797**

MALE 56, seeks adventurous lady, 46-55 for uncomplicated friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393763**

HAPPY go lucky male, 50, GSOH, seeks female for relationship and fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393739**

AFFECTIONATE fun loving male, 50, good company, slim, dark hair, blue eyes, seeks female to share good times together. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393649**

STEWART 50, 5ft 11ins, likes dancing, seeking companionship, maybe more with lady 40-50. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392178**

BRETT 35, enjoy socialising, cinema, travel, gym, seeking female, 25-35. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393883**

44YR old single man, 5ft 8ins, OHAC, N/S, seeking lady, late 30-40's for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392132**

56YR old hot blooded man, seeking female under 50 for exciting thrilling fun to take you to dreamland and beyond. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394153**

Gay Seeking

IF YOU'RE LOOKING to connect and chat with other men look no further TXT: **GAY601** to **65125** for 3 chat matches, fun and safe service. **(T&C's below)**

Go online - www.localgaydate.co.uk

COUPLE 50's, male 6ft, female, 5ft, petite, seeks bi female for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394115**

PRETTY blonde 47, medium build, looking for boyish female, 50's for cosy nights in and out. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388798**

BEVERLEY feminine, petite, 42, seeks similar, intelligent, down to earth female for possible relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374239**

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All manner of fun and frolics at water gala

SEE PAGE 47



ON THE BUSES

Veteran vehicles show some front on birthday tour

SEE PAGE 48

Kent Weekend



Charmed, I'm sure...

The monsters waiting to meet you in Margate

SEE PAGE 45

PLUS: One great British eatery that could go far - **food and drink p46**
Stylish new homes offer buyers three levels of quality - **property p50**
Toyota's latest launch has sights set on keeping us green - **driving p55**







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KENT **TOURISM**

The Museum of Monstrosities

Toast a host of horrors

A decidedly mixed bag of characters is the latest sign of a seaside town's revival, writes **Dave Mairs**

THE rebirth of Margate as a seaside resort and its hopes of a bright new future took another bound forward this summer with a little help from the dark side.

The Museum of Monstrosities opened in the Old Town last month to reveal an attraction that you suspect will draw any number of jealous looks from rival coastal towns across the region – here is another tangible show of faith in Margate's emergence from the ashes of a troubled recent past that seemed to epitomise seaside decline.

It's in the swish Media Centre – or the old Lloyds Bank, for those of a longer tooth – that the museum has been established by Gary Pollard and Vicki Pepper, two friends who had studied theatre design at college in Nottingham almost 25 years ago.

It hosts, to quote the publicity, "objects that were never intended to be seen by the general public" but that have been "smuggled into England by operatives and agents of the secretive Non-Conformist Technologies".

More succinctly, exhibits include the likes of a dragon's egg, mermaid and werewolf skeletons and an alien grey – the stuff, maybe, of both legends and nightmares.

They are genuinely impressive, as you would expect from a man whose career as 'creature effects designer' in the movies has seen him work on such big-name ventures as Star Wars – The Phantom Menace, The Mummy, Alien 3, The Fifth Element and Harry Potter.

"I've been making effects for movies since 1993 – I know how to cut corners," said 51-year-old Gary.

Even so, the scale of the museum project has been immense. "It's all been in my own time – often after working a 12-hour day on a movie."

It was a reunion meeting with Vicki that set the museum in motion. She had thrown a party for old college friends and it was there that Gary talked about his plans.

"I've been living in Ramsgate for the past couple of years and was well aware of the planning and regeneration going on here," said Vicki, 52. "As soon as he told me what he wanted to do, I thought that Margate was the perfect place for the museum."



HEADS UP: The museum has been a labour of love for Gary Pollard and Vicki Pepper, inset

Faith has played a large part in getting it to where it is now. "There has been little or no feedback up to this point, but now they've seen it people have responded so well," said Gary.

"There's more to do. This is in its most basic form – we have more material and we'll be upgrading and adding as the season goes on. This is a very basic statement – we're ambitious and what I'd like to have is a permanent home for the museum."

Where that is may depend, in part at least, on the response of the Kent public over the summer. As it stands, the museum closes its doors on Sunday, September 2, but the story will not be over then, regardless of how successful the first season is.

"We have a back story and we go to private collections and archaeological digs – the material keeps growing," said Gary. "I fully intend to continue with this in some form – it doesn't end here, whatever happens.

"We couldn't have done this here without Vicki's local knowledge. I looked at what Margate could have in the future – we want people here to enjoy this. It gives the feeling that here's something a bit more maverick."

The exhibits comprise a mix of genuine and fabricated bones – the werewolf skeleton, for example, is totally fabricated. And, given the reality of the subjects, we can expect their physiology to be as accurate as... well, we might expect. "I have a background in amateur biology and wanted to be a vet," said Gary. "You have to make the biology feasible."

Devoted to the museum project as they have been, both Gary and Vicki are keen to emphasise the role that other people have played. There is fireman Ed Symons, Vicki's partner, who has built much of the structure around the foyer; there is "props guy" Paul Constantinou; and there is Vicki's sister Penny, who has contributed financially. The list of all who have helped is too long to reel off in full, but their efforts are far from forgotten.

The wide and varied contributions are particularly pertinent when it comes to how much the whole thing has cost.

"The cost is hard to quantify," said Vicki. "There has been a lot of personal time and money, while family friends have helped with things like pictures and posters. The help we've had has been fantastic. Suffice to say, we've done it on a shoestring."

And as it was Vicki who threw the party where, in a way, it all began, we'll leave the final word with her: "Gary told me it had been a dream of his to do this. I quite like working with dreams."

• The Museum of Monstrosities, 11-13 King Street, Old Town, Margate CT9 1DD website: www.margatemonstrosities.com telephone: 07874 230005

• Admission is £4.95 for adults and £3.55 for children (family ticket £19). You can also buy timed tickets for guided tours.



To be included on this page, please email **features@kosmedia.co.uk**

A beacon of British talent that's close to the summit

RESTAURANT **REVIEW**

A city the size of Canterbury should have more restaurants pushing to break into the top level of UK culinary excellence.

Not everyone can be awarded a Michelin star, but having the ambition to reach the higher echelons is important. One of those surely on the cusp of achieving something special is Deeson's British Restaurant. The buzz about this place is obvious, a substantial website showing the "Deeson's British way" having enticed me into an evening meal on a Monday night.

The restaurant was already full when we arrived, with the punters' natter and busy waiting staff creating a good atmosphere.

From minute one, I and my friend the chef were catered for but not smothered by superb service that also convinced us to go local with our drinks, the Curious Brew from Kent's Chapel Down quenching our thirst.

To start, I went for the lightly-battered home-grown courgette flower stuffed with white-and-brown crab mousse served with cherry tomato, shallot and herb dressing (£7). The dressing was addictive, the mousse light and a perfect appetiser. An interesting dish featuring the courgette flower, this was something different.

My friend went for the fish platter of smoked-salmon mousse, white crab mayonnaise, breaded monkfish cheek, tiger prawns and whitebait (£9). A cheeky dip into the crab mayo and an assuring nod meant the dish was also well received and well priced given the contents.



For mains I opted for the roast free-range breast of chicken stuffed with smoked garlic sausage served with buttered cabbage, a potato pancake and a wild mushroom sauce (£16). The chicken breast was succulent, but the stuffing of smoked garlic sausage was disappointing as "stuffed" implied the sausage meat would be inside the chicken and not under it – and also feature a little more than a coin-sized disc of meat.

The chef went for the slow-cooked belly of Brogdale fruit-fed pork served with bubble and squeak, a slow-cooked pig's cheek and pease pudding (£16.50).

He was pleased with his meal but pointed out that the tough cheek was a little over-cooked and couldn't be finished... but still good.

The desserts arrived. I had the melt-in-the-middle chocolate pudding served with candied hazelnuts and dark cherry ice-cream (£7), while he went for vanilla set cream served with fresh raspberries and raspberry-ripple ice-cream (£7).

Although superbly presented, both dishes had ice-cream as a large part of the ingredients, making the £7 mark too high. Yes, you get what you pay for in restaurants, but the extra couple of pounds made the meal go from good value to a little expensive at £78 for two.

Still, the variety was impressive and ambition is good trait. Deeson's could be going places.

Joe Bill

Deeson's British Restaurant
Sun Street, Canterbury CT1 2HX
Telephone 01227 767854
Website www.deesonsrestaurant.co.uk

All is lively and tasty down by the riverside

BRIDGES Wine Bar and Restaurant in Maidstone has had a great start following its opening three weeks ago.

The building had been in disrepair for more than four years before owner Michael Schembri refurbished it and gave the place a new lease of life. Business is thriving, which is brilliant news for the area, with 12 members of staff already having been recruited.

The upstairs of the venue, which houses à la carte diners, needs to be booked in advance to guarantee a seat. Music is also now on the menu every other Thursday and Sunday.

Bookings can be taken on 01622 753700.

Folk Week kick-starts patriotic new flavour

MUSIC fans visiting Broadstairs Folk Week, which runs from Friday to Friday, August 10-17, can sample a patriotic new flavour of Kent Crisps – roast beef and Spitfire ale.

Visitors to the Kent Crisps stand at the craft fair in Victoria Gardens can try the hand-cooked snacks made with potatoes from Quex Park in nearby Birchington.



Other, established, flavours feature oyster and vinegar, Ashmore cheese and onion and Biddenden cider vinegar and sea salt.

Broadstairs Water Gala

Wednesday August 22nd 9.30 am to 10.30pm

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For up to date information go to www.broadstairswatergala.co.uk

Supported & Sponserd by:
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For enquiries for craft/trade space contact:
01227 700894 / 07789 742828

All traders must be authorised to trade at the event.

All events /attractions are subject to weather conditions on the day. Air displays subject to CAA license approval. Aircraft colours may differ from models shown. * Funfair & Punch & Judy charges apply.

ARCHANT KOS MEDIA

Red Lion

Circa 1364

Crockham Lane, Hernhill, Kent, ME13 9JR

New restaurant opening on the 17th of August

All Kentish Produce

Located in the picturesque village of Hernhill, there is a warm, cosy atmosphere, with quality home-cooked food.

Choose a drink from a varied selection of wines, beers and real ales.



Sunday Lunch 12pm to 8pm

Choose from a selection of meats including pork, lamb, and beef, served with all the trimmings.

One course £10.50
Two courses £13.50
and
Three courses £15.50

16th Thursday August
Join us for our
Champagne & Canopès Evening
to promote the opening of our Kentish theme restaurant upstairs, our food will be all Kent produce. Please call and book

Official opening 17th August

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01227 751207 www.theredlion.org

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New album, new tour

Ballad-rockers return

Winter Gardens, Margate
Monday, December 3
01843 292795
www.margatewintergardens.co.uk

TOP pop-rock band Keane have announced their first UK tour in three years, and the group will be heading to Margate's Winter Gardens.

The ballad-singing band, who shot to fame with Brit Award-winning album Hopes And Fears, have finally finished recording their latest work and are looking to showcase it to their loyal fans on the new tour.

Four years have elapsed since Keane's last album, Perfect Symmetry, and with the top-selling Under The Iron Sea LP also to their name, it was probably time to resurface.

Having already sold out a gig at Folkestone's Leas Cliff Hall in May, the group have obviously seen it wise to target Kent fans again.

Feel the noise!

Glam-rockers join together

Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone
Wednesday, November 7
0844 84713015
www.leascliffhall.co.uk

SLADE and Sweet are rock icons and pioneers of the glam-rock phenomenon.

Now the rocking pair come together for a tour of the UK, including a stop at the Leas Cliff Hall in Folkestone. Fans will be treated to Slade hits such as Cum On Feel The Noize, Mama Weer All Crazee Now and many more.

Throughout the 70s, Slade, right, became one of Europe's biggest bands, with 17 consecutive top 20 hits and six No 1s.

The group are perhaps best known for the classic holiday anthem Merry Christmas Everybody.

And alongside them, Sweet will perform mega-hits such as Ballroom Blitz, Blockbuster and Done Me Wrong All Night.



Sun, sea, sand and splendour

Water gala

Viking Bay, Broadstairs
Wednesday, August 22
01227 700894
broadstairswatergala.co.uk

GET down to the Broadstairs Water Gala next week for a day of family fun by the seaside at Viking Bay.

The show features three air displays, including the fabulous Yaks Aerostars followed by the aerobatic marvels of the RAF Tucano plus a classic flypast display by the vintage Boeing Stearman.

The packed day of attractions also features a sandcastle competition, beach games, mini-golf, seashore and rockpool discovery with the Rock Doc, nautical tales with walkabout characters, live music at the bandstand, a funfair and much more.

The funday will end with fireworks over the bay, making for a fantastic spectacle.

For more information on times and events, you can visit the website above.



Crown glory

Replica rocks on display

Royal Victoria Place Shopping, Tunbridge Wells
Open until Sunday, August 12
Admission is free

A GLITTERING tribute to the world's most famous jewels is on display until Sunday in Royal Tunbridge Wells to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the London Olympic Games 2012.

The Royal Rocks Exhibition is at the Royal Victoria Place shopping centre, showcasing replicas of the historic Crown Jewels of Great Britain.

This spectacular exhibition will provide an educational and interesting day out for all the family... and it's free!

The exhibition includes 12 of the most famous pieces, including the St Edward's Crown, made for the coronation of King Charles II in 1661 and worn by every British monarch since at each of their coronation services.

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High society
Balloon and Ferrari fun

Groombridge Place, near Tunbridge Wells
Sunday, August 19
01892 861461

GET a taste of the high life at Groombridge Place Gardens when millions of pounds worth of sleek Ferraris and romantic hot-air balloons arrive for a one-off event.

Visitors will be able to take a close look at some of the most iconic cars in the world, with both classic and new Ferraris featured in the same show.

There will also be a collection of Ducati bikes on show, along with some fabulous scooters for vehicle fans as well as collection of MGs – some dating back to 1920.

The glamorous lifestyle continues with the hot-air balloons tethered in the grounds from 1pm before taking off at 6.30pm and providing a spectacular sight as they drift over the countryside.

See www.groombridge.co.uk.



Vintage buses on the road
Historic rides

Margate seafront
Saturday, August 18
www.mdekbusclub.org
Check for tour stop times

THE Dreamland Trust is celebrating the 60th anniversary of the M&D And East Kent Bus Club by taking to the roads of Kent for a rather special tour.

The journey will take the buses to Margate, where three of Thanet's veteran vehicles, with their drivers in vintage uniforms, will arrive just before midday.

The first stop will be outside Dreamland's Grade II-listed cinema on Marine Terrace for a rare photo opportunity. People can climb aboard for a short trip along the seafront to Margate's harbour area before the buses set off to Ramsgate to rejoin the wider Kent tour.

Starting in Chatham, it heads to Maidstone, Canterbury, Margate, Dover and Folkestone.



Old stomping ground
Skabour's back!

Quarterhouse, Folkestone
Friday to Sunday, August 10-12
01303 858500
www.folkestoneskabourfestival.co.uk

REEL Big Fish are just one of the big-name bands due to perform at this weekend's Skabour festival in Folkestone.

Set around the harbour and at Quarterhouse, the annual festival has become a popular destination for legions of Ska and 2 Tone fans.

Reel Big Fish headline Quarterhouse on Sunday, promising another of their hyperkinetic stage shows with juvenile humour and ironic covers of new-wave pop-ska.

Also in the festival line-up are Bad Manners and The Dualers, but look out for the pop-up Skabour shops that sell retro vinyl, CDs, T-shirts and other ska memorabillia. For more details on times and places, visit the website above.

A feast of folk
Music, dance, art and craft

Broadstairs Folk Week
Fri to Fri, August 10-17
01843 604080
broadstairsfolkweek.org.uk

IT'S that time of year when eventive and creative people flock to Broadstairs for Folk Week.

The popular festival, which attracts thousands to the Thanet town every year, has created a packed line-up of comedy, music, arts and non-stop entertainment.

With more than 100 gigs at pubs and venues around the town and a campsite just 10 minutes' walk from the centre, Broadstairs will be buzzing.

Just some of the names announced include Eddi Reader, Oysterband, Benjamin Zephaniah, Feast of Fiddles, Magpie Lane and the Monster Ceilidh Band.

There are 70 events per day: check out the website to see times, dates and locations.



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Flashy legend of hit hip-hop
Grandmaster

Casino Rooms, Rochester
Saturday, November 9
Tickets on sale
www.teaconcerts.co.uk

PIONEERING DJ Grandmaster Flash, the man behind such monster hits as The Message, is to perform a special show in Rochester later this year.

Flash, real name Joseph Saddler, will be behind the decks at the Casino Rooms on Saturday, November 9.

Raised in The Bronx, New York, he was credited with introducing the cross-fade to DJing, allowing them to seamlessly switch from one track to the next.

He is cited as an inspiration by a host of acts such as Public Enemy, Jay Z, Run DMC and Beck and was one of the most cutting-edge names in hip-hop during the 1970s and 80s.

Now 54, he still performs on decks around the world.

Tickets are priced at £12.

Do the Twist, feel the Pulse
Dancing duo

Glow, Bluewater
Sessions price accumulative
Mon, Aug 13-Sun, Sep 9
www.glowbluewater.co.uk

FORMER Britain's Got Talent stars Twist and Pulse are running a summer dance school for budding and experienced movers alike.

Fresh from their 70-day UK Olympic Torch relay tour and after performing with the Twist And Pulse Dance Company throughout the Olympics, the pair bring their unique style of Streetomedy – streetdance and comedy – to Kent.

This is a rare opportunity to learn with two of the best street-dancers in the UK, along with members of the Twist And Pulse Dance Company.

Lessons will be taught by Twist and Pulse representatives, although the famous duo will be around to lend some inspiration.

The price is accumulative depending amount of sessions attended.



Intimate gig for Cribs
Before the festivals...

The Royal Function Rooms, Rochester
Tuesday, August 14
Tickets £12
www.thepreservationsocietypresents.com

THE Cribs will be playing an intimate warm-up show in Medway before hitting the stage at Leeds and Reading festivals later this month.

The Wakefield band will perform at the 200-capacity Royal Function Rooms in Rochester on Tuesday, August 14.

Described as "the biggest cult band in Britain", the group are best known for hits such as Men's Needs and You're Gonna Lose Us.

The three-piece is made of twins Gary and Ryan Jarman and their younger brother Ross, but for a short time they were joined by legendary ex-Smiths guitarist Johnny Marr.

Their fifth album was released in May.

It will a-maize
Perfect place for a puzzle

Penshurst Place, near Tonbridge
Open until September
www.penshurstplace.com

FOR the first time, Penshurst Place will this year have a maze attraction for visitors to enjoy during the school summer holidays.

But get this – the maze is made out of, well, maize. And it's sure to provide hours of eco-fun for the family.

The new attraction has been designed by Mazescape and will be open at Penshurst until mid-September, depending, as ever, on the Great British weather conditions.

The maze will be free to visit for full-paying garden-ticket-holders and Penshurst Place season-ticket-holders.

For voucher and other card-holders there will be a small extra charge of £2 per adult, £1 per child, per visit to take on the winding, life-size puzzle.



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Heralding the triumphant return of the stylish three-storey home

THESE newly-built three-storey properties ready to be moulded into family homes are fast growing in appeal.

Owners can benefit from a great deal of flexibility in the way they configure their lifestyles on the many levels of space provided.

For instance, at Cathcart Gate, Kings Hill, near West Malling, developer Hillreed Homes has launched a curved terrace of Kensington-style, three-storey properties.

Four of these properties are currently on the market, ranging in price from £329,950 to £339,950. They offer substantial space, including a hall, study and fitted kitchen/dining room on the ground floor, an 18ft first-floor living room and master bedroom with en-suite facilities on the second floor. The top floor houses three further bedrooms and a bathroom.

Plot 16 is also a three-storey home, but it is detached and has a less classic exterior, embracing a bolder 21st-century architectural approach.

Offering three bedrooms at £344,950, the property offers value for money as it is also being marketed under the Summer Discounts scheme, which allows buyers in a strong position an opportunity to secure a substantial discount.

If you are able to exchange within five weeks there is a discount of £4,000; this rises to a £6,000 discount for a four-week exchange and those able to exchange within three weeks can see a reduction on the asking price of £8,000.



CATHCART GATE: The three-storey home has emerged from history to embrace modern style

Kings Hill is a landscaped neighbourhood providing residents with easy access to supermarkets, shops and eateries, an 18-hole golf course, schools, doctor's surgery, sports centre, bus services, cricket club, cycle paths and a pub.

With the M20 and M25 within a short drive and rail links to London and the Continent, Kings Hill is in a good location.

At Cathcart Gate there are three show homes to view, open seven days a week. Full details of the development are at www.hillreed.co.uk; or phone 01732 847500 for more information.

Mediterranean appeal for property-buyers

SPAIN has overtaken France and the US as the UK nation's favourite place to buy an overseas property, according to leading information provider The Overseas Guides Company (OGC).

Twenty-two per cent of all enquiries to OGC between April and June this year were for Spain, which represents a 37.5 per cent increase on the first quarter of 2012, when the country's share of enquiries was just 16 per cent.

France pulled in the second highest share with 21 per cent, followed by the US with 14 per cent, each dropping just 1 per cent compared with the first quarter.

Richard Way, editor of The Overseas Guides Company, said: "Spain has always been a favourite with British buyers, but clearly there has been a surge in interest in the last few months.

"Our recommended agent on the Costa Blanca, HomeEspana, reports a 20 per cent rise in British clients in the last three months. Interest for higher-valued properties in towns like Moraira, as well as more traditional destinations like Torrevieja and Cabo Roig, has returned.

"Part of the reason could be that the coastal regions most sought after by foreign buyers are ahead of the curve in terms of falling prices, while much uncertainty still remains in inland developments.

"The stronger pound will be luring buyers back to the market, too.

"For British people, a €100,000 property is around £5,200 cheaper today than it was in January, purely due to the exchange rate shifting to around £1/€1.27 from £1/€1.19."



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WESTWELL

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Range of fully serviced office suites of various sizes to let at Kings Hill.

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Industrial unit with B2 use. Approx. 1177 sq.ft. Located in a busy industrial estate.

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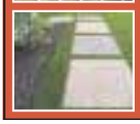
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Camaro will add muscle as Chevy continues to grow in UK

Driving

carsforkent.co.uk

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk



SPOTLIGHT ON... TOYOTA PRIUS PLUG-IN

Price: £27,895
Driving appeal: Not driven yet
Image: ★★★★
Space: ★★★★
Value: ★★
Running costs: ★★★★★
Reliabilty: ★★★★★
How green?: ★★★★★
Best rival: Vauxhall Ampera

Toyota launches attack on the green front with hidden extras

IT'S been dubbed Toyota's 'New Model Army' – a reference to Oliver Cromwell's disciplined war machine.

Whether the Japanese No 1 carmaker's four-model summer offensive will have the same devastating effect on the opposition remains to be seen, but it does signal the resource and determination of the brand.

We've already seen two of the new cars – the Yaris Hybrid supermini and rear-wheel-drive GT86 coupé – but the latter is really a small-volume/high-profile sideshow, reminding everyone of glory days when the brand boasted a sub-range of sporting stars such as the Supra, Celica and MR2.

The real thrust of this summer push is promotion of petrol-electric hybrid technology, in which Toyota has staked so much.

Here the earlier arrival of the Yaris Hybrid was a curtain-raiser for two more hybrids wearing the now-famous Prius name.

The standard Prius (from £21,600) is already the most recognised hybrid model on the planet, but a new variant has now arrived wearing the same body, concealing extra kit beneath it.

This is the Prius Plug-In – priced from £27,895 after deduction of the Government's £5,000 ultra-low-emissions vehicle grant.

Users can plug the car into the mains or a special charging point for just 90 minutes to give this Prius version about 15 miles' range at speeds of up to 50mph, running solely on emissions-free electric power.

For many users that range will be enough for nearby stops and drops or a local commute, without resorting to the onboard 1.8-litre engine.

On the other hand, longer runs can be tackled without worrying about the so-called range anxiety, which drivers suffer when using all-electric vehicles; once the battery is exhausted, the engine takes over.

But Toyota isn't just targeting the eco-conscious and early-adopter techno-fans as the Prius Plug-In attracts a benefit-in-kind tax rate of just 5 per cent for company-car user-choosers and, with CO_2 emissions of just 49g/km, is well below the 100g threshold requiring payment of road tax.

On the eve of launch, the car confirmed its eco-friendliness by landing the 'Large Family Car' gong in the 2012 awards staged by the website Next Green Car.

But the Prius Plug-In is not the only Prius debutante: Toyota has also launched the Prius+ (from £26,195), the market's first seven-seater full hybrid, a compact people-carrier/MPV with road-tax-exempt 96g/km of CO_2 and an official combined fuel economy of 68.9mpg in entry-level T4 format.

Both this and the Prius Plug-In share a new, lighter and more compact lithium-ion battery pack. In the case of the Prius+, this has allowed the design of an all-new body with five separate folding rear seats.





SHOCK TREATMENT: Toyota's Prius Plug-In, top, has a 15-mile range while travelling at speeds of up to 50mph, running solely on electric power before using its 1.8-litre engine while the Prius+, left, is the first seven-seat full hybrid people-carrier

DON'T LIKE

... the extra price to pay over and above a standard Prius, even after deduction of the Government grant, but technology costs – as ever.

NOT SURE

... the 15-mile electric range will be enough for some. Many may look at the stylish Vauxhall Ampera/Chevrolet Volt's claimed 25-50 miles.

REALLY LIKE

... the pace of progress we are seeing in the hybrid sector, which is now looking better able to compete with conventional eco-diesels.

MOTORING

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Peugeot baby's fixed-fee deal is a winner, you Just Add Fuel

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

IT'S no wonder that carmakers are sniffy about making small motors.

They can be as much trouble to make as big ones but you can't charge big-car money, so profit margins are tight.

They don't do much for brand image, either.

But manufacturers can't afford to ignore them now as the drive to downsize and economise gathers pace – to cut fuel bills, emissions and insurance.

No wonder that the VW Audi Group this year launched the broadly-similar VW Up, Skoda Citigo and Seat Mii – three cars for the price of one.

But if this seemed novel, Toyota, Peugeot and Citroën got there first with their 'Attack of the Clones' city car in 2005 – the Aygo, 107 and C1 respectively.

Not surprisingly, a road test of the latest 107 reveals how this other joint effort is showing its age now, even if another facelift suggests that it will soldier on for a while.

At least this makeover is better than the 107's midlife-crisis edition; at the time, I reported that the remodelled front end looked like a vacuum-cleaner nozzle.

The new one is far more in keeping with the 107's funky looks, even if the test car's 'Plum' colour is like something from a nail-varnish palette. Then again, despite earlier efforts to pull the boys with versions wearing go-faster stripes and alloys, this always was a cute car more for the ladies.

Inside, the layout is funky rather than luxurious and, though the test car was an Allure flagship, I reckon the cheaper models are best value.

The dashboard looks a little cheap, with quite a lot of reflection from the upper surface on to the steeply-raked windscreen. There is also a lot of bare metal in the car and the rear windows pop out rather than wind up and down – even on the five-door model.

PEUGEOT 107 ALLURE 5-DR : PRICE £10,045



BREAKING THE MOULD: Peugeot's 107 has definitely benefited from a recent facelift and now boasts a funkier body outside and striking new interior, but it's Peugeot's Just Add Fuel deal that should see it become a big hit with young motorists

Deep pockets in the lower dashboard are great for swallowing loads of stuff, though not closed off from prying eyes.

A pair of minimalist door pockets contain the speakers for the sound system, but a piece of door pocket partway across a speaker grille can't help sound output – indeed, the 107's sound system does seem a bit tinny.

The cabin seats four and is spacious, but the boot is minimalist, especially against the biggest-in-class version in the rival VW series.

But I like the big dial switches flanking the heater/ventilation unit and the front seats are comfy, even if the rear pair is rather upright and possibly uncomfortable on long trips.

It's a great little car to drive, though; the three-cylinder engine is willing and has a light gearbox, so you can have some fun. In town, it's in its element but not outclassed on motorway cruising, though the engine can sound thrashy at times.

Driven sensibly, you should average 60+mpg and low emissions mean no road tax; motoring doesn't come much cheaper than this, with prices from just £7,995, though I can't help pointing out that Skoda's newer Citigo starts from £7,630.

But Peugeot does have a secret weapon that's possibly too secret. It's a scheme called Just Add Fuel (JAF) and it does what it says on the tin.

New-car-buyers from the age of 21 can get a three-year fixed-price package including insurance for a set monthly payment – from £179 per month in the case of the 107.

The only headache? They just have to add fuel – not much, as you will have gathered.

This seems like a no-brainer for young drivers or those on tight incomes.

FACT FILE

Driving appeal:	★★★★
Image:	★★★★
Space:	★★★★★
Value:	★★★★★
Running costs:	★★★★★
Reliability:	★★★★
How green?:	★★★★★
Road tax:	Zero
Best rival:	Skoda Citigo

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First GEAR

MOTORING NEWS



A-Class set to win with style

MERCEDES-BENZ will shake up the premium hatchback sector in December by launching a different type of A-Class.

The new model abandons the mini-MPV profile of its two predecessors in favour of a low-slung look that could outgun the BMW 1 Series and Audi A3.

Mercedes aims to sweeten the deal with tempting PCP deals starting at £249 a month.



Top Lexus has F Sport looks

LEXUS'S flagship LS model has followed the mid-range GS in getting the more aggressive styling applied by Toyota's premium brand.

In addition to the standard LS460 and hybrid LS600h version, it will also be available for the first time with a sporting variant, using the F Sport sub-branding deployed by Lexus to attack its more overtly performance-orientated German rivals.



Astras receive BiTurbo boost

VAUXHALL already offers its stunning BiTurbo performance diesel in the Insignia family class and Astra GTC models.

Now it's the turn of the five-door and Sports Tourer (estate) Astra to get the marque's most powerful ever diesel, giving everyday Astra-buyers access to 0-60mph in under eight seconds while averaging about 50mpg with low emissions incurring £120-a-year road tax.



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Chevy adds muscle to UK sales drive

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

ONE of America's best-known car brands clearly wants to be the same here.

Chevrolet is already outperforming the UK car market by a factor of 10: UK car registrations rose 2.7 per cent from January to June, but the biggest motor brand at General Motors boosted its sales by 27 per cent.

So far this has come from offering decently-made value cars evoking some of the brand's American heritage in styling, although all are made in the Far East.

At least they were until now, because Chevy has played a major card in the heritage game by importing the latest incarnation of the legendary Camaro V8 muscle car – a long-time favourite bedroom-wall pin-up.

OK, so it's actually made just across the border from the States in Canada's motor city of Oshawa, but the Camaro is an all-American beast, with a massive 432PS (426bhp) on tap from a descendant of the classic General Motors 'small block' V8.

In coupé form, it does 0-62mph in 5.2 seconds – the convertible takes 5.4 – but you'll be lucky to average 20mpg; you can't have it in right-hand-drive; and, with prices from £35,025 for the coupé and £40,025 for the crop-top, you could have a Porsche Boxster.

But there is a point being missed here: Chevy doesn't expect to sell many Camaros, but it expects the Camaro to sell many Chevys by association with this brutish icon – this is the halo car the brand needed to really put it on the map with buyers, even if it hasn't been doing too badly anyway.

Chevrolet says the car has been Europeanised for export, but it does feel a bit crude and heavy against more obvious rivals like a Jaguar XK, even if it looks good value then, with prices for the Jag starting at £65,000.

It also felt vast when I piloted it along some un-American narrow leafy lanes, although I was surprised at how taut the chassis felt when cornering.

The interior feels very American, too, but that's all part of the car's charm and goes with the muscular exterior.

The clincher for those who fancy it, though, will be the sound of that V8 engine – even better with the roof down on the convertible.

It's a surprisingly muted burble low down the rev range, but it starts growling at about 4,000rpm or when you really hit the throttle.

Which is also what Chevrolet is doing on the sales front, now topping that 27 per cent growth over the first six months of 2012, by launching a zero per cent finance deal on mainstream models.

This means the big-selling Aveo five-door supermini, pictured above, starts at £9,895 or £139 per month, while the bigger Cruze Hatchback is £12,495 or £179 per month.

All Chevys, except the Volt hybrid and Camaro and Corvette sports cars, also come with a five-year warranty.



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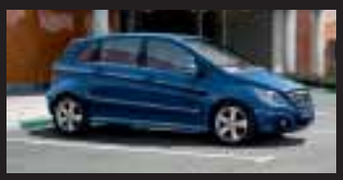
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OLYMPICS

Journey ends for Shaw with no repeat of Beijing medal win

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

IN a week which saw Olympic medals being dished out left right and centre for Team GB, it was just one sail too far for a Kent athlete.

Tunbridge Wells windsurfer Bryony Shaw, 29, was tipped as a medal prospect before the Games, having come away with a bronze in Beijing four years ago.

She went into the final double points medal race in seventh position and still had a chance of staking a late claim for silverware.

However, she needed to win the final race of the 11-race series and hope the girls ahead of her in the standings fell well down the fleet.

Unfortunately it wasn't to be as she could only manage fifth in Weymouth with Spain's Marina Alabau Neira taking gold, Finland's Tuuli Petaja claiming silver, and Poland's Zofia Noceti-Klepacka winning bronze.

"It was tricky in this type of wind," she said. "I put in my best race I could but it was not to be a medal this time. To not come away with a medal I'm gutted but I've enjoyed the journey. Each day you have to be positive. My penultimate day where I won a race, I think my positive attitude got me to that point and I really enjoyed that race."

She admitted it had been a hard 12 months after battling a chest infection which has persistently hampered her build up to the Games.

Picture: RICHARD LANGDON



GUTTED: Byrony Shaw missed out on a medal at Weymouth after clincing bronze in Beijing four years ago

"It's been a tough year. I've had a bit of illness and not been able to physically prepare like I would have liked to," she said.

"Probably three months out of eight I have basically had to rest and recover, which is a bit of a shame.

"I'm not as physically fit as I'd like to have been. My forearms gave up in that race. It hasn't been the best series for me but I'm happy to be coming out with a smile on my face and an acceptance of where I am at.

"It's been a great four years, me and my coach, Dom, have worked really hard and it's been a great journey."

She thanked everyone for their support and it's not all doom and gloom that she didn't win a medal.

"It's just so great to feel their support. I'd like to say a huge thank you to those guys and all the messages I've had on Facebook and Twitter," she said.

"Windsurfing is such a great life, I'm going back home to a great life and it's not all heartache that I haven't got a medal here. The stars needed to align and unfortunately the other girls put in a great week and that's hats off to them."

There was better news in the week for Ashford runner Lisa Dobriskey who was happy to have made the 1500m final after easing through the heats and running a perfectly timed tactical semi-final race on Wednesday evening ahead of the Friday night final.

The former Southlands School pupil endured an injury nightmare in the lead-up to the Games, with specialists telling her to quit running to allow blood clots on her lungs to clear, just weeks before the GB Olympic Trials.

She said: "Did I think then that I would make the final? Not at all. When I sat down, the specialist we went to see looked me in the eye and said 'you should give up.'

"I thought 'that's the worst thing you can possibly say to me because it makes me even more determined'.

"At that moment I really had a turning point and decided, no, I'm definitely not giving up on this and kept dreaming and kept believing so I'm really grateful to be here."

The 2006 Commonwealth Champion and 2009 World Championship silver-medallist also revealed: "My husband Ricky (Soos, former GB 800m runner) and I watched a film and there was a pendant in it, St Jude, the patron saint of lost causes. He bought me the pendant as I was a lost cause.

"I've worn it every single day and it's paid off."

KENT'S OLYMPIC ROUND-UP



LISA DOBRISKEY: The Ashford running ace won her heat in the 1500m on Monday lunchtime in a slow pace of 4.13.32s, and then ran the perfect race to qualify for Friday night's final with a fourth place in Wednesday night's semi-final.



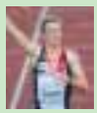
ASHLEY JACKSON: Team GB hockey star Jackson, from Tunbridge Wells, continued his great form at the Olympics with a goal in the draw against Spain on Tuesday which set up the semi-final showdown against the Netherlands on Thursday night.



ADAM GEMILI: Dartford's Gemili showed he could compete with the best in the 100m, finishing third in his semi-final, beaten only by Tyson Gay and eventual silver medallist Yohan Blake. He still has interest in the Games as part of the 4x100m relay team.



KAT DRISCOLL: The Chatham trampoline gymnast was left heartbroken at missing out on a place in last weekend's finals by a fraction of a point. She finished ninth overall in the competition, but can be proud of her efforts on the world stage.



JACK GREEN: Maidstone's Green crashed out of the 400m hurdles in the semi-final quite literally on Saturday after hitting a hurdle, however he ran a blistering third leg of the 4x400m relay on Thursday to get Team GB into the final this weekend.



JEN WILSON: Canterbury ladies' star Wilson finished on the losing side as South Africa's women's hockey team suffered a heartbreaking 2-1 golden goal defeat to Japan on Wednesday in the eigth and ninth place play-off match.

Picture: ADY KERRY



HOME: Darren Stevens is happy with life at Kent

CRICKET

Delay in signing a new contract isn't a worry for star all-rounder who wants to see out his career at county

KENT star Darren Stevens feels like he has plenty more to give the county and is hoping to extend his expiring contract sooner rather than later.

Stevens has often been a key man for Kent this season with bat and ball. Last month the all rounder passed 10,000 first class runs and also confirmed his place as highest run scorer in domestic T20 cricket history, despite Kent Spitfires failing to make it out of the group stage of the competition.

There's no doubt the 36-year-old would be an asset to any county in the country, which is why fans are eager to see him sign a new contract at the St Lawrence Ground before it expires at the end of the season.

Despite the length of time it has taken, Stevens insists there is no doubt in his mind where he will be playing next season.

"It will all be sorted hopefully sometime this week," he said. "I wouldn't want anything else (other than to play at Kent). Kent gave me a second chance seven years ago and this is my home now and I'm very comfortable down here.

"I feel like I have a couple more years to give to the club and to the fans. I would have liked my contract to be sorted out before the start of the season.

"I'm very happy with Jimmy coming into the club and the way the youngsters have come through and the senior players who have signed.

"The club is in a really strong position at the moment."

He said the hold up was down to being final checks being made on the small print.

"There are a few clauses the club have put in and my agent is reading through it, it's just about getting him to clarify things really, that's all it is really."

He wouldn't say how much longer he could play for, but joked: "It depends how much Keysey (captain Rob Key) wants me to bowl."

Stevens knows the pressure is on as Kent continue their promotion push which has been dented in recent weeks after losses to fourth place Hampshire, and table-toppers Derbyshire by two wickets last weekend, but he is happy with how he is performing in the team.

"I feel in a really good place, I feel like I'm hitting the ball well," he said. "We just need a little bit of luck to go our way really, and if you look back there have been some dropped catches and poor shots."

He and his team mates are still in with a chance of promotion from the LV= County Championship Division Two despite the defeat to table toppers Derbyshire last week, which leaves Kent third.

"After the game we had a debrief, we had a good chat and we knew we under-performed in sessions," he said.

"It was disappointing but we came out of the changing room with our heads held high."

HOCKEY

Canterbury getting ready to host Masters World Cup

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

CANTERBURY is getting ready to stage a 'mini hockey Olympics' with the arrival of the Masters World Cup on Tuesday.

The city's Polo Farm site will be graced with 10 days of hockey action with almost 1,000 players representing nations from around the world, including New Zealand, Australia and South Africa.

The Masters competitions features ladies' age groups for over-35s, over-40s, over-45s, over- 50s and the men's over-40s, over-45s, over-50s and over-55s who will be competing all day, every day on the two water-based pitches at the club.

It has taken an enormous amount of preparation by the club, and chairman John Hinchcliff couldn't down play how much it meant to the area, with it expected to boost tourism.

"We are talking about 900 athletes and 45 teams – it's a huge amount," he said. "We are honoured to host it and are really looking forward to it.

"We are relying on a huge army of members to volunteer to help from car-parking to catering."

The club hosted the European Masters five years ago, but Hincliff said this was four times the size of that event and the pressure was on to deliver, with teams jetting in from across the globe, as well as a healthy representation from those on the Continent coming to play.

"They have come from the other side of the world, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa – they will be expecting a good show.



TOP CLASS: A host of former international hockey players will be in the squads playing at Polo Farm

"It's a bit like organising the Olympics," he said.

Graham Cartmell, who has helped organise the event, said Canterbury was a perfect location for the tournament.

"We were trying to get two pitches close to each other at a club that had the ability to fit us in," he said. "They have held international matches there and they have the infrastructure to cope with it."

The tournament was last held in Singapore in October, when England won three golds and a bronze in the men's tournaments.

For more information about match timings, visit www.hockeymastersworldcup.org.

CRICKET

Coles short-listed for award after strong season so far

KENT all-rounder Matt Coles has been short-listed for the LV= County Championship Breakthrough Player Award.

Coles started the season in blistering form, which has since earned him a place in the England Lions squad and helped propel Kent up the table in LV= CC Division Two.

He is one of six players on the list for the award, which aims to celebrate the most promising young player in the county game.

Cole's competition includes Yorkshire's Gary Ballance and Joe Root, Derbyshire top-order batsman Dan Redfern, Lancashire spin-bowler Simon Kerrigan and Surrey fast bowler Stuart Meaker.

A four-man panel comprising LV= ambassador and ex-England bowler Darren Gough, former England captain and current managing director of partnerships at the ECB Mike Gatting, PCA chairman and Worcestershire batsman Vikram Solanki and cricket writer John Stern selected the short-list.

Gatting said: "It's been a great county championship season so far and these six players really stood out for the panel. I sincerely hope that these players continue to perform and go on to play for England Lions and England in the coming years."



Picture: ADY KERRY

VOTE: Back Coles in internet poll

The winner will be decided by an internet vote, which is open until Sunday, September 2. To vote for Coles, visit www.LV.com/cricket.

The player with the highest number of nominations will receive a commemorative TAG Heuer watch engraved to recognise their achievement and a £1,000 donation will be made to grassroots cricket.

MOTORSPORT

Formula One cars to star in Brands Lotus Festival

THE annual Lotus Festival returns to Brands Hatch next weekend and it promises to be one of the best yet, with a stellar line-up of classic and modern vehicles expected at the circuit.

In the past the event has seen Formula One demonstrations, as well as a once-in-a-lifetime collection of all of the Norfolk marque's F1 cars and some of the rarest products to leave the factory.

For this year's festival, which takes place on Saturday and Sunday, Lotus will be bringing along its product range, some of which will be running on the circuit, while Classic Team Lotus will have a selection of classic F1 cars from the past, along with privately-owned cars and action on the Brands Hatch rally stage from Sunbeams and more.

There promises to be a carnival atmosphere at the track, with trade stands, air displays, live music and club displays adding to the weekend.

There is also a full race programme headlined by the Lotus Cup UK and Elise Tophy.



PACKED: Plenty of track action

Meanwhile, the 50th anniversary of the Elan will be celebrated with a special race, while the 1992 gold-winning pursuit bike will be a star attraction.

• For more news about the festival, visit www.lotus-festival.com, while for tickets visit www.brandshatch.co.uk.

FOOTBALL



DISCIPLINE: Allen happy with togetherness

Birthday boy Allen raring to go with Bristol City opener

MARTIN Allen has praised the spirit of his Gillingham squad, which he believes is now ready for the new season.

Allen has been in charge for more than a month now and is happy with the progress his side have made throughout pre-season. He is especially pleased with the attitude and discipline they've shown.

With the friendlies all finished, it's down to business as he gets ready for the opening game in the Capital One Cup against Bristol City on Tuesday, which is also his 47th birthday, before Bradford visit in the league next Saturday.

"They have all worked so hard since I have been here and I'm very proud of them all," he said. "Their attitude, discipline and focus is good and they've done really well.

"The squad is ready – they can all play and I believe they will all play a part. There are a lot of games coming thick and fast."

The Gills tasted defeat for the first time under Allen, going down 3-0 to Watford on Tuesday in their last pre-sesaon friendly. His side recovered much more strongly in the second half after shipping all three goals in the first 45 minutes.

It was a game that saw former Portsmouth striker Deon Burton make his debut after signing a one-year deal earlier in the day.

He said: "There's going to be ups and downs, let's not kids ourselves. There will be ups and downs for the next 10 months, but I think the supporters could see from the second half when we added some senior players we looked much stronger. They all look happy and there is no shouting or raving.

"We have very few injuries and what we have got is minor, so hopefully by the time the Bradford game comes around we will be at full strength.

"You have to be careful at times not to go chasing results because the important thing is the long-term goal, which is fitness, power, strength, conditioning and flexibility. We train hard a day before games and you see how the players react – it's all been part of their training.

"The players are off Saturday and me and John Schofield will go up to Notts County to watch Bradford play in the afternoon and then Sunday and Monday we will train.

"On Tuesday afternoon, my birthday, we go off to Bristol City for the first game."

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